

Inside this week:

Misery of floods returns to the city p2

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Thursday, February 13 - Wednesday, February 19, 2014

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# FLOOD FIGHT 'A PRIORITY'

## WODC reassures residents help is available if needed

TWENTY people had to be rescued by firefighters from a caravan park near Northmoor on Sunday, as flooding again affected West Oxfordshire for the second time this year.

Fire crews used a floating sledge and rescue boat to help people from their homes at Bablockhythe Caravan Park next to the River Thames, who are being temporarily housed elsewhere.

It comes just weeks after residents at the park had to be evacuated a first time when flood waters threatened their homes.

Station manager Nick Bourke, who led the rescue operation for the fire service, said: "This is the second time residents here have been flooded in just over a month."

"There are still about 15 cara-

By Adam Flinn

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van park residents who have chosen to remain, and we will continue to support them with any information and advice that they might want or need."

Cllr Derek Cotterill, chairman of West Oxfordshire District Council, said the majority of the rescue work in the district was in Bablockhythe, with isolated incidents elsewhere.

He spoke about how the flooding has affected Burford, and said: "Our main problem is protecting the church and the houses by the River Windrush, which has been successful."

"The officers have been out and about across the district continuously, and have been dumping sandbags here and there if people want them."

Cllr David Harvey, cabinet member for environment, added: "The persistent and heavy rainfall is causing a great deal

of worry and anxiety for many people in the district after the devastation it caused back in 2007.

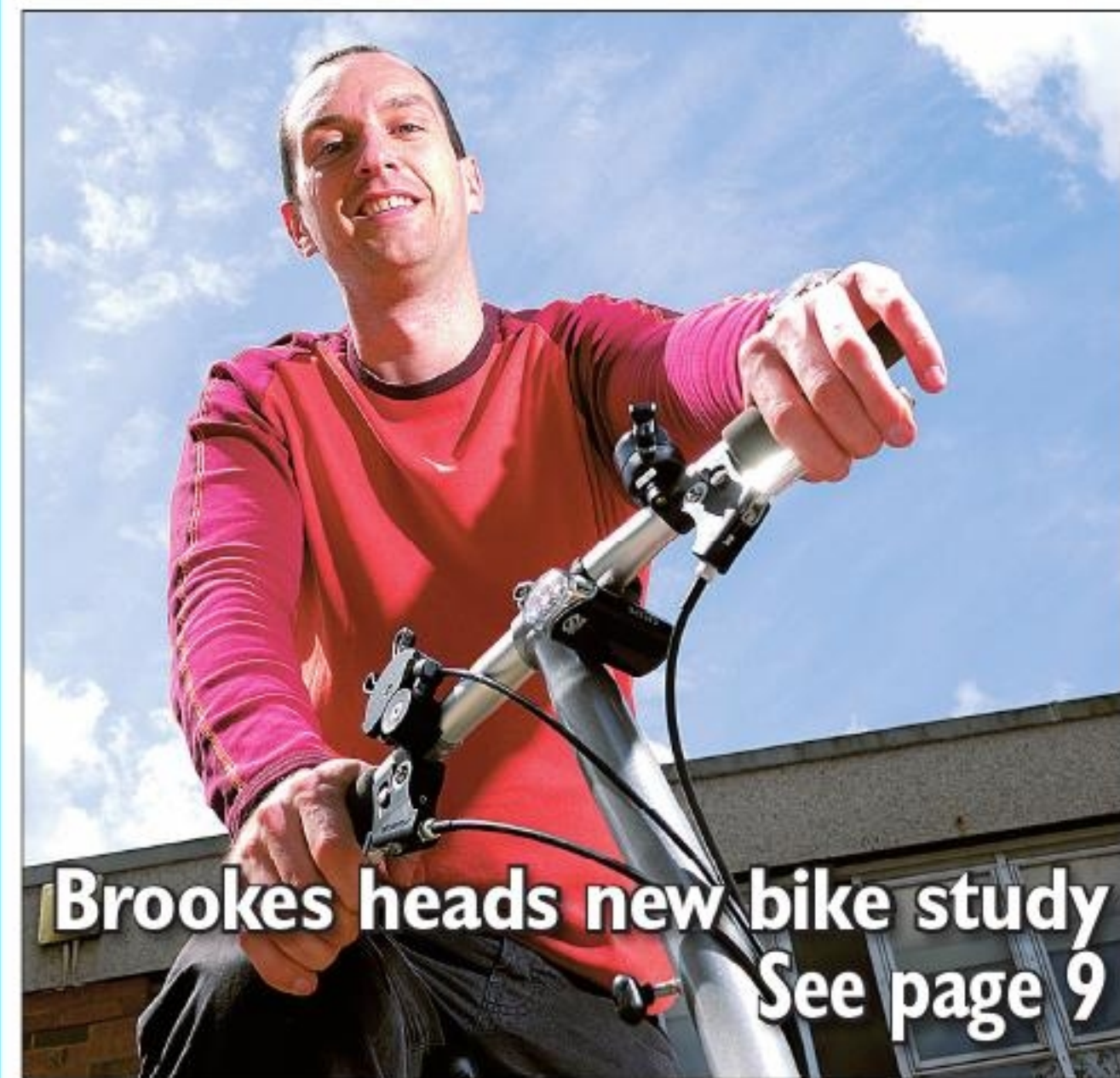
"I would like to reassure Oxfordshire Guardian readers that flood alleviation remains a priority for the district council."

"We have previously secured over £1million in funding to push forward with flood defence schemes across the district and have continued to pressurise other agencies to fulfil their duties."

"It is important that we all continue to work together to achieve the very best possible flood protection for our District."

At the time of print, road closures in West Oxfordshire included Great Brook Road near Aston, London Lane in Ascott-under-Wychwood and Dry Lane in Crawley.

• See pages 2 and 3 for more coverage on how the floods are affecting people around the county



Brookes heads new bike study  
See page 9

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The Oxfordshire  
Guardian Series is  
published by  
Taylor Newspapers Ltd.

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# Misery of floods returns to the city

FLOODING has once again severely affected Oxford and the rest of the county, with residents, homes and roads threatened by rising water levels for the second time this year.

Commuters have again faced chaos on the roads as Abingdon Road was closed, along with Seacourt Park and Ride, on Sunday.

Flood alerts are in force for the River Thames and River Cherwell in the Oxford area, with more rain expected over the next week.

The latest floods have led politicians in Oxford to renew their calls for a flood channel to be built, known as the Western Conveyance Channel, which would divert water away from the city.

Oxford East MP Andrew Smith said: "Oxford faces a dire situation, with all the heartache and worry for those at risk of flooding, and the widespread disruption and economic cost to the city and surrounding area."

"It is important to press the case for the Western Conveyance Channel to relieve flooding pressure on Oxford."

"We need urgently to secure commitment to this major scheme, which is the only way of significantly reducing the flood risk in the city."

"Everyone can see the much greater frequency of major flooding in our area and its damage, and whilst it will take some years to get the Channel in place, the sooner it starts, the better."

Cllr Bob Price, leader of Oxford City Council, said: "The current flooding emergency seems likely to continue until the early part of next week."

"The city council, the fire service and the Environment Agency have worked together with great success so far to keep Botley Road open, and to prevent any homes flooding."

"The council have also installed mobile toilet units in several

By Adam Flinn

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places to help families who cannot use their loos."

Caroline Douglass of the Environment Agency said: "Our sincere sympathy goes out to those who have already suffered the dreadful experience of being flooded."

"We are moving towards December, January and February being the wettest winter in 250 years and looking ahead at the rest of this week, the end is not yet in sight."

"Unfortunately we cannot prevent flooding altogether so I would urge the public to check if they live or work in a flood risk area, and keep up to date with the latest situation on the Environment Agency website."

ACC John Campbell, gold commander for the policing operation around the flooding, said: "Thames Valley Police has dedicated a significant number of officers across our Force area to assist in flood relief efforts."

"There is an enormous amount of work going on across the Thames Valley to try and alleviate the flooding and put measures in place to help those that have been affected."

"I am aware that there have been rumours circulating about criminal activity and suggestions that looting has been taking place."

"I can state that there have been no reports to police that corroborate these rumours and additional officers have been deployed to flood affected areas to deter those who would look to exploit this situation to criminal ends."

"Working together is exactly what is needed at this time as we all pull together to get through this, and I hope this will continue under the flood waters recede and a sense of normality has been restored."



• Communities secretary Eric Pickles visited Oxford on Monday to check on flood defence progress - he is seen here with county council leader Ian Hudspeth (second left) and Oxfordshire fire chief David Etheridge

## Calls for EU funding in Oxfordshire

OXFORDSHIRE County Council should apply for EU funding to help rebuild flood defences in the county, according to South East England MEP Catherine Bearder.

While the UK is not applying for funds from Europe, Ms Bearder is urging council leader Ian Hudspeth to apply for EU Regional Development Fund money.

This money is given to areas of EU countries, which in this case would be put towards flood prevention infrastructure in the future.

Ms Bearder said: "Whole swathes of Oxfordshire have been affected by these horrendous floods."

"The government has decided not to apply, so I think it is now Oxfordshire County Council's job to apply for regional funds."

"This funding could prove vital, it could ensure defences are built so people no longer have to worry every time clouds appear overhead."

Cllr Hudspeth said: "Councillors and staff from all parts of the county council have spent large parts of January and February on a day to day basis, helping our residents deal with flooding."

"Of course we would be interested in money from the EU or any other source to help Oxfordshire's cause. Party politics does not come into the equation."

## Leader hopes to shame 'bow-wave bandits'

COUNTY council leader Ian Hudspeth is urging people to resort to social media to shame "ignorant bow-wave bandits".

Throughout this year's flooding, a large number of reports have been made of motorists ignoring closure signs.

Cllr Hudspeth says it is "the most ignorant behaviour imaginable" and is asking people to tweet with #bow-wavebandit when they see a

vehicle creating bow-waves for flooded properties.

"Our highways teams do not put up road closed signs because the notion takes their fancy," Cllr Hudspeth said.

"I am sure there are plenty of examples of sheepish motorists who in recent weeks have had to telephone their insurance company to make a claim with nobody to blame but themselves."

"On the other hand I am sure

there are examples of people whose homes have suffered flooding which would not otherwise have happened had it not been for aggressive motorists ploughing through several feet of water and creating bow waves.

"Tweet with #bowwavebandit when you see a vehicle creating an anti-social bow-wave for flooded properties, and let this minority of irresponsible drivers know how you feel."

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# Flood warnings remain in place in South Oxon

FOR the second time this year, South Oxfordshire's residents and businesses have been affected by the floods as wet weather continues to cause chaos across the country.

At the time of writing, a flood warning was in place for the River Thames in Abingdon, Clifton Hampden, Dorchester, Little Wittenham, Culham, Goring and from Days Lock down to South Stoke.

Sandbags are available for collection across the county while more than 6,000 have been distributed across South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse.

Last Saturday and Sunday, Tesco's car park in Abingdon was underwater and St Helen's Wharf and the Abbey Meadows was also affected by the rising water levels.

Abingdon Town Council leader Sandy Lovatt praised the work done since the floods in the sum-

**By Adam Flinn & Jack Johnson**

[news@taylornewspapers.co.uk](mailto:news@taylornewspapers.co.uk)

mer of 2007, when water flooded numerous homes in the town.

He said: "I think we're more ready than we were in 2007. The rivers and waterways have been properly managed and I'd praise the Ock Valley Flood Group, who have done so much to keep the Ock clear."

"That sort of preparation has kept the wolf from the door, as it were, and hopefully these current storms will be dealt with in the same way they were before."

The situation in Wallingford is better but Cllr Bernard Stone, the town's mayor, says he will be keeping an eye on the rising water levels.

"I have spoken to one or two people over the last 24 hours and

it has not affected the boat house yet," said Cllr Stone.

"It (the River Thames) is getting fairly high but I am not aware that it has got in to any houses."

"Gardens are flooded on the outskirts of Wallingford and basements have got flooded but we are not aware of any properties. We will be keeping an eye on it."

Meanwhile, Henley MP, John Howell, is writing to all parish councils to pick up areas of flooding not attributable to major rivers.

After meeting with the farming community, he said: "They have taken a sensible approach to the unprecedented weather we have been facing."

"However, they remain very concerned about the impact of the flooding on their businesses."

"In addition, many farmers, particularly in the north of the

## Road closures

- Grove Road, Harwell
- B4016 between Blewbury and East Hagbourne
- High Street, Clifton Hampden
- Knightsbridge Lane, Pyrton, near Watlington
- Main Street to York Street, West Hagbourne
- Pembroke Lane, Milton
- Wallingford Road, North Moreton
- Hithercroft Road, South Moreton
- High Street, Drayton St Leonard Mill Lane, Henley
- Thameside South, Friday Lane to Station Road, Henley
- Culham Bridge, Tolgate Road, Culham
- B4016 Drayton Road, Sutton Courtenay

constituency, are concerned that the situation has been made worse by the failure of the Environment Agency to dredge rivers

such as the Ray.

"I will want to follow up on these when the worst of the crisis is over."

## News Bites

### Assaulted

A MAN who was beaten up by three teenage boys in Banbury is currently in a stable condition in hospital.

At around 2am on February 12, a 26-year-old man, was in Causeway Grimsbury, when he was assaulted by the teenagers.

If you have any information call 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

### Kingsmere housing

THERE will be a drop-in session on Monday to inform people about the impending Kingsmere housing development in Bicester.

Cherwell District Council and the Churches in Bicester Kingsmere Welcome Group will be at the session.

The event will take place between 3pm and 6pm at Wyvale Garden Centre.

### Sport awards

RESIDENTS of West Oxfordshire are being reminded that the deadline for nominations to the district council's sport awards is looming, with applications needing to be submitted by next Thursday.

West Oxfordshire's Sports Coach of the Year, Sports Club of the Year and Unsung Hero awards have been set up to honour the commitment and achievements within sport across the district. Nomination forms can be found at [www.westoxon.gov.uk/leisure](http://www.westoxon.gov.uk/leisure).

## County council promotes safe internet use



• Pupils from St Francis Primary School in Cowley learn about internet safety with Oxfordshire County Council anti Bullying co-ordinator Jo Brown and Safer Schools Officer for Thames Valley Police, Kim Dugmore.

CHILDREN across the county have been spreading the word about using the internet safely.

It is all part of an Oxfordshire County Council initiative to help protect children from becoming victims of cyber bullying or being exploited online.

The county council is also working with Thames Valley Police and the Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children's Board (OSCB) in carrying out the campaign across the county.

Tuesday marked National Safer Internet Day and Oxfordshire's schools were asked to take part in an e-safety survey.

Its objective was to build up a picture of young people's experiences on the internet and identify key issues that need to be tackled.

Oxfordshire County Council's anti-bullying co-ordinator Jo Brown was keen to promote the initiative.

She said: "We should all take responsibility for helping make the internet a kinder and more respectful place for people to enjoy the positive opportunities that it brings."

"We want to stress the benefits of seeking positive and safe opportunities to engage and share online."

"But we also want to empower young people to know how to keep safe and where to turn if they are worried about something."

Free e-safety training sessions are also being held for adults at Didcot Early Intervention Hub on March 24, and at County Hall, Oxford, on June 18.

## Do you have an Oxford story?

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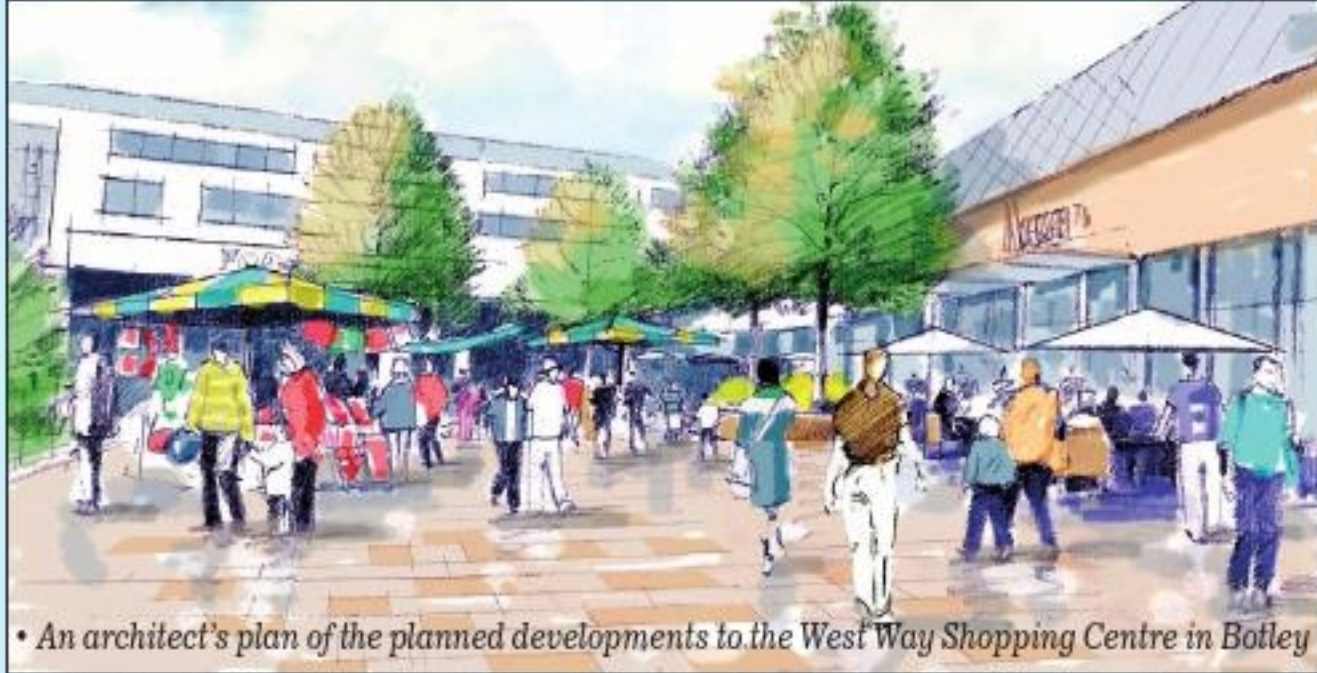
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# Cherwell set to benefit from town centre fund

## Tree-mendous! Botley to gain new foliage



• An architect's plan of the planned developments to the West Way Shopping Centre in Botley

WEST Way Shopping Centre developers Doric Properties are set to plant almost 200 trees, as part of its plans to revitalise Botley District Centre.

The plans, which form part of the regeneration of the shopping centre, will see 12 existing trees retained and 59 replaced, increasing the number of trees from 71 to 204.

Plans for the centre also include 2,000m<sup>2</sup> of roof gardens,

which will provide a habitat for butterflies, moths and bees.

Simon Hillcox, joint owner of Doric Properties, said: "Our plans are going to transform the shopping centre to create a really attractive place where people will meet with their friends and neighbours."

"We want people to be able to come and enjoy a meal, or a coffee, or to take part in community events in the new piazza."

Landscape architect Lizzie Palmer said: "We plan to plant almost 200 trees as part of the proposals, including some six or seven metre tall lime and birch trees along West Way and Westminster Way."

"We've also planned ornamental crab apple trees for the piazza area, new trees for the garden areas of the new community hall, and a band of trees for the boundaries areas, including oak trees."

CHERWELL District Council is set to invest tens of thousands of pounds into Banbury, Bicester and Kidlington, to help boost trade in the areas.

Councillors agreed to introduce a number of initiatives that they hope will increase footfall, which includes advertising, regeneration and improved signage.

It will be funded by the £100,000 Town Centre Innovation Fund, which was awarded to the council in 2012 by government following Mary Portas' review into boosting High Street trade.

Cllr Norman Bolster, lead member for economy and estates, said: "In December 2012 we used part of these funds to offset the cost of free parking in Banbury and Bicester."

"While this was hugely successful, the benefits were only temporary."

"As we cannot afford to offer free parking all year round, we needed to consider other ways to use this one-off funding to provide long-term benefits."

"By allocating separate funds

By Adam Flinn

[adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk](mailto:adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk)

to Banbury, Bicester and Kidlington, we can implement a series of long-standing initiatives and projects, which will promote the towns' individual strengths and attractions."

Banbury will receive £50,000 of the total funding and Bicester will get £30,000, although half of each has already been used for the car parking. The remaining £20,000 will go to Kidlington.

Around £10,000 will be spent in Banbury to enhance signs, with £15,000 being used to fund the Town Centre Coordination Project.

Bicester's remaining £15,000 will be divided into 30 grants to independent traders to cover 75 per cent of the costs associated with a year-long radio advertising campaign.

Kidlington's money will be allocated to improving the piazza by constructing a partial screening for the toilet block, to enhance the facility's appearance whilst adding privacy.

It will also be used to help fund 'Welcome to Kidlington' information boards to assist visitors.



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## News Bites

### Poetry talk

THE daughter of First World War poet Edmund Blunden will speak at Oxford University in April.

Margi Blunden will be remembering her father and his work at the WW1 Poetry Spring School run by Oxford University's English Faculty on April 3-5.

### Stolen fuel

FUEL has been stolen from the tanks of three vehicles in Blackthorn, near Bicester, between February 1 and 3.

Police are now appealing for witnesses who may have seen a man acting suspiciously on February 2 at around 1.30pm at Blackthorn Station, who was of large build and wearing a blue jacket. Call 101.

### Youth awards

NOMINATIONS for the Oxfordshire Youth Awards 2014 will on Monday, with seven categories available for people aged 11 to 19.

Award categories include Arts Superstar, Sports Achievement, Community Champion, Pride of Oxfordshire, Inspirational Entrepreneur, Young Einstein of the Year, and Youth Project of the Year.

The winners will be announced at Oxford's New Theatre on March 17.



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It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Managing Director Josh Florey feels that it's all about service. "Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 10 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although that obviously helps."

Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done. We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole."

Cloudy2Clear service Oxfordshire from their local depots and Josh is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. "The truth is that it's not just the personal

satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much

a little bit of effort is appreciated." So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Josh a call for a free quotation on 0800 61 21 118 and he'll be happy to help!



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## Arts festival raises rights awareness

A FESTIVAL dedicated to raising awareness of human rights returns for a 12th year this month.

This year the programme of events is entitled the Oxford Human Rights Arts Festival, kicking off on February 24 for four days.

As well as film screenings, the festival will host live music, theatre, poetry and a range of guest speakers.

The festival is organised by Oxford Brookes students on the Development and Emergency Practice (DEP) master's degree course.

Martin Dolan, a current DEP student involved in organising the festival, said: "The Oxford Human Rights Arts Festival gives us the opportunity to highlight these issues to a wider audience, in a moving and entertaining way."

"We have such a diverse range of events, from films to poetry and theatre, so this year is sure to be the best festival yet."

Events will take place in venues across the city, including the Old Fire Station and Ultimate Picture Palace, and all are open to the public.

Tickets for events are now available at [www.oxfordhumanrightsfestival.org](http://www.oxfordhumanrightsfestival.org)

# Museum back in action after 14 month closure

THE Oxford University Museum of Natural History will reopen this weekend, after being closed for the last 14 months while repairs were carried out.

Around £2million was spent on restoring the leaking roof of the building, with more than 8,500 glass tiles needing to be removed, cleaned and resealed.

Staff took advantage of the closure to carry out conservation work on whale skeletons, which were treated for the first time in a century.

A programme of events is planned for Saturday to celebrate the reopening, featuring live bands and a speech from museum director Paul Smith.

Mr Smith said: "This has been a long, dark year with the museum closed to visitors."

"Although the closure has been a great opportunity to experiment with different ways of taking our specimens to the public, it will be very nice to see the doors open again on Saturday."

"It will be great to have the sound of visitors filling the space once more, without them having to move around buckets to collect rainwater!"

The museum was established in 1850 in various facilities

By Adam Flinn

[adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk](mailto:adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk)

around the city, until Sir Henry Acland initiated construction of the current building between 1855 and 1860.

Before its recent closure the museum attracted around 300,000 visitors a year, and is divided into sections relating to geology, mineralogy, zoology and entomology.

While it was closed, 12 specimens, including a dodo and a dinosaur, were installed at venues around the city to form an interactive treasure trail, the winners of which will be announced on Saturday.

Saturday's programme sees the museum's doors open at 7am, with bug handling, talks and music taking place throughout the day.

A number of exhibitions have been planned for the upcoming months, such as a lecture from the Oxford Geology Group, images of butterflies and moths, and an event about the tensions and overlaps between science and the arts.

For more information, go to [www.oum.ox.ac.uk](http://www.oum.ox.ac.uk).

## Raising the flag for the Commonwealth



OXFORDSHIRE County Council was host to dignitaries from the district councils on Monday, as they were presented with a flag in preparation for Commonwealth Day next month.

Lord-lieutenant of Oxfordshire Tim Stevenson delivered the flags, which will be used by the districts for flag-raising ceremonies on March 10.

This is the first time in history that the ceremonies will be held across Oxfordshire and

the country, in celebration of the Commonwealth Games being held in Glasgow later this year.

Mr Stevenson said: "This is a great opportunity to promote understanding on global issues and celebrate the work carried out internationally by Commonwealth organisations."

"We are proud to be supporting this event and look forward to distributing the flags to dignitaries representing the dis-

trict councils.

"We believe that global bonds begin locally, and what better way to emphasise than by inviting local celebration of this special association."

Bruno Peek, originator of Fly a Flag for the Commonwealth, said: "This will be the largest, single raising of the Commonwealth flag in history."

"The success of this year's event bodes well for 2015 and the future."

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**Mayor's Column****Axel MacDonald**

Mayor of Didcot

**Development plans for Didcot**

AS we enter February the rain and winds stay with us.

The incessant assault by our weather has impacted on our roads with pot holes growing like inverse mole hills and diversions due to flooding.

Luckily I see the highways team out and about trying to keep abreast of road repairs and improving drainage to alleviate flooded roads – my gratitude to these teams for this unending task.

However, the news in Didcot is not just about the weather. Changes are afoot with the proposed Didcot 'Gateway' going to planning at District this month, the ever ending wait for the second phase of the Orchard Centre expansion, new sports facility to the north east of the town and proposed purchase of land for recreational use off the Wallingford Road.

Having talked to local residents, there is approval for the development of the 'Gateway' site opposite the railway station but providing the development takes account of residents needs.

The planned replacement of 400 parking spaces at present with a 300 capacity multi-storey car park is one of the points raised. I'll leave any further comment to those on planning committees.

There is some excitement in the prospect of purchasing land which the cricket club and other sports clubs might make as their new home.

Didcot residents will be asked what their view is and I hope that residents respond to provide the council with a representative response of the town.

The town's Civic Ball is on February 28, open to all and I look forward to welcoming you to this annual event.

Money raised goes to my selected charities, the Felix Fund and Balsam Family Project, and details are available of the town council's web site.

We also have the Didcot annual awards evening on March 26 and I would urge townsfolk to put forward candidates who have worked hard for the town and their efforts to be formally recognised.

**Do you have an Oxford story?**

Contact James [jamesb@taylornewspapers.co.uk](mailto:jamesb@taylornewspapers.co.uk) or on 01235 516931

# Bike study to help all ages

By Adam Flinn

[adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk](mailto:adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk)

OXFORD Brookes University is conducting a study on the impact of electric bikes, known as E-bikes, on the mobility and wellbeing of older people.

The study is supported by bike manufacturer Raleigh UK, and comes as there is growing awareness that assisted cycling can lead to health benefits for thousands of inactive people.

One of the issues that the industry faces is reaching out to people of all ages, so the cycle BOOM study plans to investigate the experiences over 50s have using E-bikes.

While the study hopes to provide information on how E-bike technology can be improved, it also aims to show how towns, cities and the countryside could be developed to encourage older people to cycle.

Tim Jones, principal investigator at Oxford Brookes, said: "It's great to be working with an industry partner with such a proud heritage of British bicycle manufacture."

"With this study we hope to make a really important contribution in



ensuring that future bicycle technology, as well as our towns and cities, are designed to support cycling in older age."

Richard Dobney, Raleigh's electric bike product manager, added: "We're very excited to be working with Oxford Brookes and its partners on the cycle BOOM project."

"Seeing how our technology can be progressed, implemented and tailored to the non-cyclist is absolutely key to the future of electric bikes in the UK."

"Ultimately, we believe electric bikes are inclusive, and will con-

tribute hugely to getting more people on two wheels in the coming years."

Raleigh UK is hoping to implement the findings in future product and marketing developments and will be working as a partner throughout the lifespan of the study, expected to conclude in September 2016.

Researchers are currently looking for participants aged 50 and above who live in Oxford to take part in the study, which would occur before the end of March.

Anyone interested in finding out more can visit [www.cycleboom.org](http://www.cycleboom.org)

**News Bites****Man tasered**

A 51-YEAR-OLD man was tasered by police in Bicester on Monday evening, and arrested on suspicion of making death threats.

It took place at around 10pm at a property in Duxford Close. The man was uninjured.

Supt Colin Paine, LPA commander for West Oxfordshire and Cherwell, said: "I would like to reassure the local community that Taser use is a staged process."

"On many occasions the use of the laser sight, or red dot, is enough to encourage people to comply. It is only considered for use in cases where it is necessary."

**Drugs raid**

POLICE have arrested a 19-year-old man in Bicester, as part of a successful drugs warrant carried out on Monday afternoon.

The raid was part of Operation Jasminum, which saw officers from the Bicester neighbourhood policing team and the Tactical Support Department search a flat in Westholm Court.

The man pleaded guilty to one count of possession with intent to supply heroin and crack cocaine at Oxford Magistrates' Court on Tuesday, and will be sentenced on March 4.

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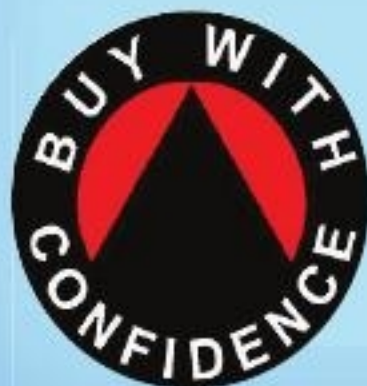
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# Autism organisation up for national award

After 40 years, Vivienne's still going strong!



(Left to right) Mark Wilson, general manager, Vivienne Edwards and Ben Reid, chief executive

A WOMAN from Oxford has received a special award in recognition of a 40 year commitment to the local community.

Vivienne Edwards, 62, has been an employee at The Midcounties Co-operative Food since 1974 and has been presented with a Long Service Award in recognition of her dedication.

Ms Edwards currently works as a duty manager at the Wood-

farm store on Atkyns Road.

The 62-year-old started as a customer service assistant before becoming a deputy manager.

She semi-retired last year, taking up her current role.

"Working at The Midcounties Co-operative in Woodfarm is a pleasure and I am proud to be part of a Society that is ethical and community focused," she said.

"I work with an inspiring team and over the years have enjoyed supporting and forming great relationships with the local community."

Gabi Harris, store manager at the Woodfarm shop, added: "Vivienne is an exceptional colleague and we would like to congratulate her on her achievement of reaching this milestone and thank her for all her hard work over the last 40 years."

AN OXFORDSHIRE-based organisation has received national recognition for its innovative work in helping people with autism.

Autism Oxford has been nominated in the Outstanding Adult Services category of this year's National Autistic Society's (NAS) Autism Professionals Awards.

The Chinnor-based organisation provides training sessions led by people with autism to professionals to help them understand the condition.

During last year, Autism Oxford trained 825 health, mental health and social care staff as well as 860 people in the criminal justice system, including 516 police officers.

The organisation was nominated for the award by the parents of people with autism.

Kathy Erangey, who founded Autism Oxford in 2007, said: "We are honoured and thrilled to have been shortlisted in the Autism Professionals Awards."

"We believe our team is unique and helping thousands of autism families and professionals."

Peter Bowell, whose adult son has autism, added: "During his dark periods, the only light that shone for our son was the Autism

By Jack Johnson

[jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk](mailto:jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk)

Oxford Team who were inspirational, giving hope where none had previously existed.

"Hearing their personal experiences was enlightening, showing that despite huge difficulties, they have progressed marvelously to help others."

Richard Maguire, an Autistic trainer for the organisation, said: "When you have spent most of your life feeling not good enough, a NAS award would be amazing."

The Autism & Ageing Projects Team and Prospect House have also been nominated.

Carol Povey, director of the Centre for Autism at the NAS, said: "These awards recognise individuals and organisations, like Autism Oxford, who go the extra mile to improve the lives of people affected by autism across the UK."

"The calibre of this year's entries has been outstanding and Autism Oxford has done remarkably well to be shortlisted."

The winner will be revealed at an awards dinner held on March 4 at The Royal Hall in Harrogate.

## University honours six of the best

SIX renowned names from the worlds of science, the arts and religion are set to receive honorary degrees from Oxford University.

Doctorates of Divinity, Letters, Science and Music will be awarded at Encaenia, the university's annual ceremony, on June 25.

The Most Reverend Dr Katherine Jefferts Schori, who is Presiding Bishop and Primate of the Episcopal Church in the United States of America and 16 other nations, will receive an honorary doctorate of Divinity.

Sculptor Sir Anish Kapoor, who was behind the 'Orbit' for the London 2012 Olympic Games, and Robert Silvers, editor of the New York Review of Books, will accept a degree of Doctor of Letters.

Prof Wallace Broecker, a scientist at Columbia's Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, and Prof Jean-Marie Lehn, a Nobel Prize for Chemistry winner, will receive an honorary doctorate of Science.

British composer Sir Harrison Birtwistle is set to be handed an honorary degree of doctor of Music.

All of the degrees are subject to approval, to be made by the university's Congregation.

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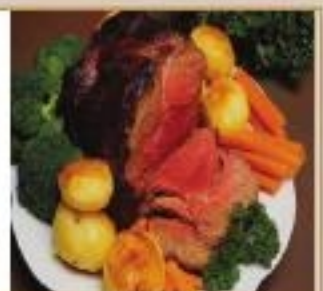
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## News Bites

### Get studying!

PARENTS of year 11 students preparing for GCSE exams can book their child on to a special revision course at Oxford University.

Elevate Education are holding an exam preparation seminar at the university on April 5.

You can book a place by calling 01865 366219 or by visiting [www.elevateeducation.com](http://www.elevateeducation.com).

### Care survey

MEMBERS of the public are being encouraged to complete a survey to help improve care in schools for children with medical conditions.

The Government has launched the consultation following the publication of draft guidance into what schools will be expected to do from September to support children with conditions such as Diabetes.

Visit [www.education.gov.uk](http://www.education.gov.uk) to complete the survey.

### Faster travel

NETWORK Rail has announced plans to shorten the journey time from Oxford to Heathrow.

A new rail line, connecting the city with the airport, would see commuters' travelling time cut from 1hr 34mins to 58mins in 2021.

# Students' free trip to Asia for charity

By Jack Johnson

[jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk](mailto:jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk)

STUDENTS from Oxford University have proved it is easier than you think to travel abroad without using any money.

As part of the university's Raise And Give (RAG) week, 200 students embarked on Jailbreak 2014.

Without using any of their own money, they were competing to be the team furthest from Oxford after 36 hours, travelling by any means they could think of.

And the winning team got as far as Tokyo, all thanks to a chance meeting with Sir Richard Branson.

Robert Harris, Charlie Parkes and Caitlin Place, who made up the 'No Rest Til Budapest' team, seized the opportunity and asked Sir Richard for his help.

The trio then boarded a plane, leaving England far behind.

"6,000 miles in 18 hours, without having spent a penny? Not too bad!" said Robert.

Despite the comfortable ride, there was still the element of adventure.



• (From left to right) Caitlin Place, Robert Harris and Charlie Parkes arrive in Tokyo (Picture courtesy of Charlie Parkes)

Robert added: "We certainly still got a good taste for the adventure of Jailbreak, not least when the Japanese immigration officer became extremely suspicious at our claims that we had nowhere to stay and that we were 'running away from England!'"

Many teams covered over 1,000 miles within the time frame, travelling by car, coach, trucks and school buses to make their

way to Stockholm, Warsaw and Majorca, to name a few.

Andrew Baxter, who helped organise the event, said: "It was fantastic just to be involved in, and it was incredible to slowly watch the map of students spreading out over the continent."

"The variety of destinations people reached just by hitchhiking was astonishing, and

testament to the participants' ingenuity and the helpfulness of the people they met."

As the Guardian went to print, Jailbreak had raised over £40,000 for RAG's four charities.

The students raised money for the Oxford Food Bank, Education Partnerships Africa, Students Supporting Street Kids and Giving What We Can.

## Elderly man targeted in roof racket

POLICE are urging people to be extra vigilant after an elderly person in Cumnor Hill became the victim of a distraction burglary.

Between 12pm and 12.30pm on February 4, two men knocked on the victim's door claiming they had carried out roofing work on the property.

The men obtained money from the man before stealing further cash from inside the house.

One suspect is described as late 20s or early 30s, of medium build wearing a blue cap.

The other man is believed to be in his 40s, with dark hair and wearing jeans.

The men left the house in a white car.

If you have seen any suspicious looking people or vehicles in the Cumnor Hill area or have any information relating to the incident, call 101.

You can also call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

**Do you have an Oxford story?**

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# *Need advice on planning care for the elderly?*



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We have invited local solicitors Slade Legal to come and talk about the many aspects of planning for elderly care. Their presentation will include financial planning for care fees as well as information about setting up a Lasting Power of Attorney and Wills.

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## News Bites

## Shop robbed

A 35-YEAR-OLD man from Witney has been arrested and is in custody after a newsagents in Carterton was robbed at gunpoint on Saturday.

It took place at around 10pm, when a man walked into the McColls newsagents in Burford Road and threatened a member of staff with a handgun.

The offender stole an unspecified quantity of cash, before fleeing towards Upavon Way.

Investigating officer Det Sgt Chris Whitwell said: "I would like to reassure the community that incidents such as these are extremely rare."

## TV burglary

A MAN who burgled an Oxford electronics store, and was caught carrying a stolen television on the handlebars of his bicycle, has been given an eight-week suspended sentence by Oxford magistrates.

Eamonn Anderson, 54, of Salter Close in Oxford, was stopped by officers after he had broken into Richer Sounds on Botley Road on November 28 last year.

He was convicted on January 31, and received the sentence, suspended for a year, after pleading guilty to the charge.

# Volunteer Flo's 25 years of service

By Adam Flinn

[adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk](mailto:adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk)

RESIDENTS and staff at a Burcot care home staged a party for long-serving volunteer Florence Broughton last Thursday, who recently celebrated 25 years at the site.

Flo, 88, lives locally to Leonard Cheshire Disability's John Masfield House, and started as a volunteer in 1988 and now works six days a week.

Her duties have progressed from feeding the home's cat and making tea to bed making, budding and supporting residents with their games, hobbies and interests.

She has also had two spells as secretary to the chairman of the resident's committee.

"The party was such a surprise, it was lovely," said Flo. "They put on a little party for me, and I was quite pleased, quite overcome!"

"I just went in a small way at first, because I was nervous and didn't know how to treat disabled people, but then more and more I got my confidence back."

"I love talking to them, play-



• Michael Davis, Florence Broughton and fellow volunteer Jean Homewood

ing games like Scrabble, singing silly songs with them, and it just grew.

"People do comment about how good I am, and my answer is always the same: 'it's what they've done for me', and I really mean that. They kept me going."

"The staff have changed but they've always made me feel

welcome. I don't know what it is but I just love going to be with them."

The party was kept secret from Flo, while she was busy playing games with residents in the activities room.

As she arrived in the dining hall, residents, staff and volunteers greeted her with a round of applause, and she was

presented with a set of crystal glasses, a certificate and a basket of flowers.

Michael Davis, acting service manager at the home, added: "What Flo has given to the service is hard to put into words."

"She has done so much, but our gratitude and thanks to this remarkable lady goes without saying."

## Search of Dry Sandford yard leads to arrest

A MAN has been arrested after police and intelligence officers searched a yard in Dry Sandford, near Abingdon, on January 29.

Officers arrested a 25-year-old from Dry Sandford on suspicion of producing a controlled drug, theft and using electricity without authority as a result of the search.

Police and Plant and Agriculture National Intelligence Unit officers discovered a large breeze block building containing a cannabis factory.

Forty full grown suspected cannabis plants, along with cultivation equipment, were found in the building.

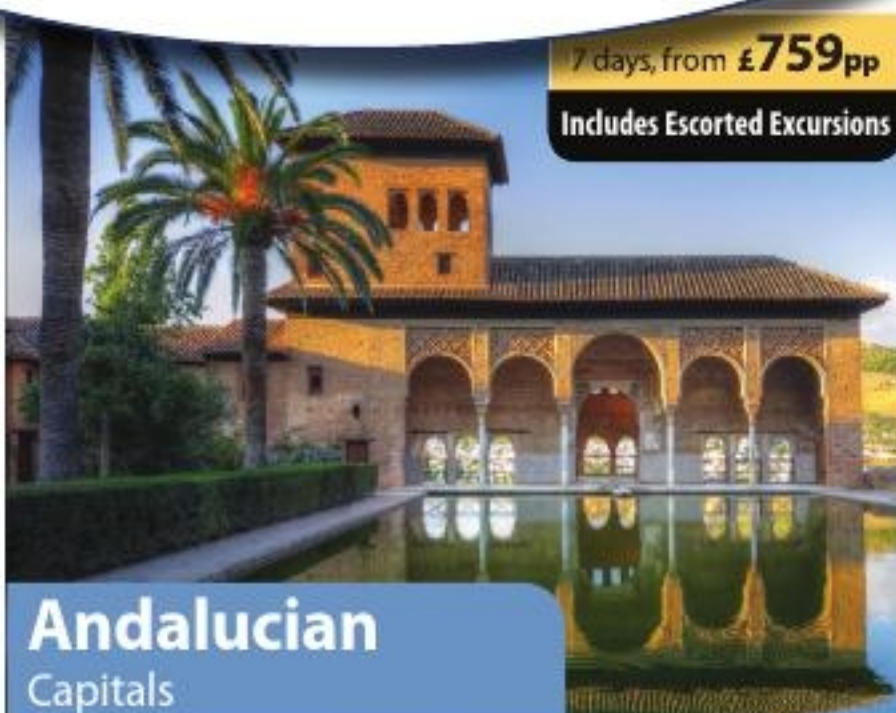
At the rear of the yard, several large shipping containers, holding numerous power tools, a quad bike, compressors, lathes and cutting equipment, which are suspected to be stolen, were also found.

A tractor, believed to have been stolen on October 8 from Chesham, Buckinghamshire, was also recovered from the site.

Officers also found three Ifor Williams trailers, believed to have been stolen from the Metropolitan area back in 1999, and an Atlas Copco Compressor, believed to have been stolen from Sussex in 2012.

The man has been released on bail until March 11.

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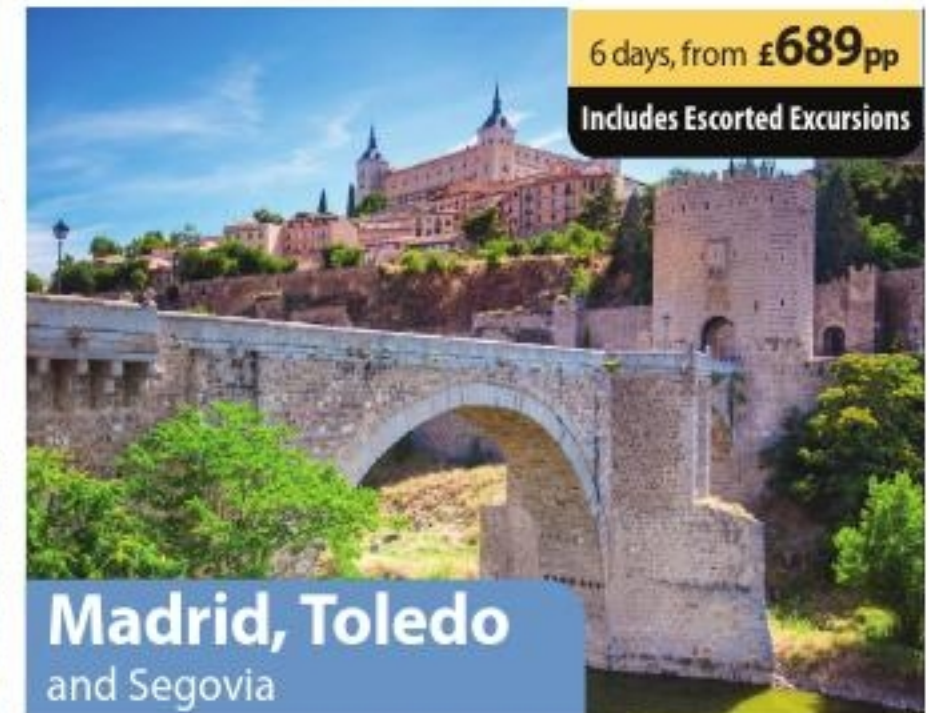
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<sup>††</sup> We have included a reasonable budget for your flights. Should the cost of these fall below or rise above this amount we will amend the holiday cost to reflect these changes and therefore the price may increase or decrease accordingly. The final price will be confirmed at the time of booking. The advertised price is correct as of 27 December 2013.

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# Green light for Castle Quay expansion plan

## Award-winning festival is right on track

CHINNOR and Princes Risborough Railway were one of the winners at the Railway Accolades awards, for their staging of their multi-anniversary traction event in October last year.

The railway received the Morton's Media Rail Express magazine Modern Traction Award, presented during a ceremony at Bath Guildhall on Saturday.

It was given to the railway in recognition of their collaboration with Chiltern Railways, Network Rail and Knorr-Bremse, who were honoured at the awards for hosting 'an innovative modern traction event'.

Railway chairman Roger J Fagg said: "The event was held over three weekends in October and special trains linked Aylesbury, Princes Risborough and Chinnor, the first for nearly 60 years."

"It was a splendid example of many organisations working closely together."

"Hundreds of visitors and

enthusiasts enjoyed a very unique and exceptional experience and they travelled from all over the UK to join the trains."

Jenny McGee, enterprise director at Visit England, said: "The consensus is that these charters linking Ayles-

bury and Chinnor have built a firm foundation for future cross-platform operations at Princes Risborough."

"It's a great example of how our heritage railway lines bring economic and tourism benefits to the local areas where they operate."



• Project manager Claire Conway-Crapp, who organised the event for Chinnor and Princes Risborough Railway

BANBURY'S Castle Quay shopping centre is set to gain a cinema, supermarket and restaurants, after Cherwell District Council gave the proposals its support.

The council's planning committee approved the expansion to Castle Quay last Thursday, following an application made by centre owners Scottish Widows.

As well as the new facilities, the development, known as CQ2, will also see a glazed canopy installed over the Oxford Canal to link the two sites.

Cllr Michael Gibbard, lead member for planning, said: "This development will inject investment, employment and retail opportunities into Banbury and help to create and sustain a thriving town centre."

"The people of Banbury have been crying out for a new multiplex cinema for many years, and since the closure of Somerfield in 2007, the town centre has been without a full-size supermarket."

"This development will address both of these needs, while the glazed canopy will create a focal point around the canal, helping to bring the new and existing developments together in style."

The supermarket will be constructed on the site of the former

By Adam Flinn

[adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk](mailto:adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk)

Spiceball Leisure Centre, the cinema to the north of the canal, and a 92-bedroom hotel to the south.

Restaurant and café units will also be built north of the canal, with additional car parking created and bridges installed over the canal and the River Cherwell.

As part of the scheme, Castle Quay's northern car park will be demolished to make room for the development.

General Foods Sports and Social Club would also need to be demolished, but the club has objected with a 58-page petition against it.

Despite getting planning permission, Scottish Widows need approval from the club owners before the building can be demolished.

**Do you have an Oxford story?**

Contact James

[jamesb@taylornewspapers.co.uk](mailto:jamesb@taylornewspapers.co.uk)

or on 01235 516931

## News Bites

### Election win

LAST Thursday's election for Woodstock Town Council was won by independent candidate Louisa Maybury, who polled almost 86 per cent of the vote with a total of 416.

Her only opponent was fellow independent candidate Christopher Harris, who received 68 votes. Turnout for the election was 17.12 per cent.

Only one candidate stood for a position on Charlbury Town Council, with Ron Prew being elected as a councillor on the same day.

### New homes

PLANS to build up to 40 homes on the outskirts of Banbury have been approved by district councillors.

The planning committee on Cherwell District Council have accepted the plans for land north of Crouch Hill Farm, adjoining Broughton Road.

Although the location is not included as a preferred site for development in Cherwell's submitted local plan, a shortfall in the council's five year land supply means alternative sites have to be considered.

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## Brendan's license to thrill

### One last time

THE heart-warming show *Dreams of Philomina* comes to the Pegasus Theatre on Saturday, from production company Lunabug.

It follows the story of Philomina, who is given the chance to see her beloved husband Albert one last time, in a journey from the seaside home to a wondrous land.

The show starts at 3pm, and tickets are £8. Go to [www.pegasustheatre.org.uk](http://www.pegasustheatre.org.uk) or call 01865 812150 for more details.

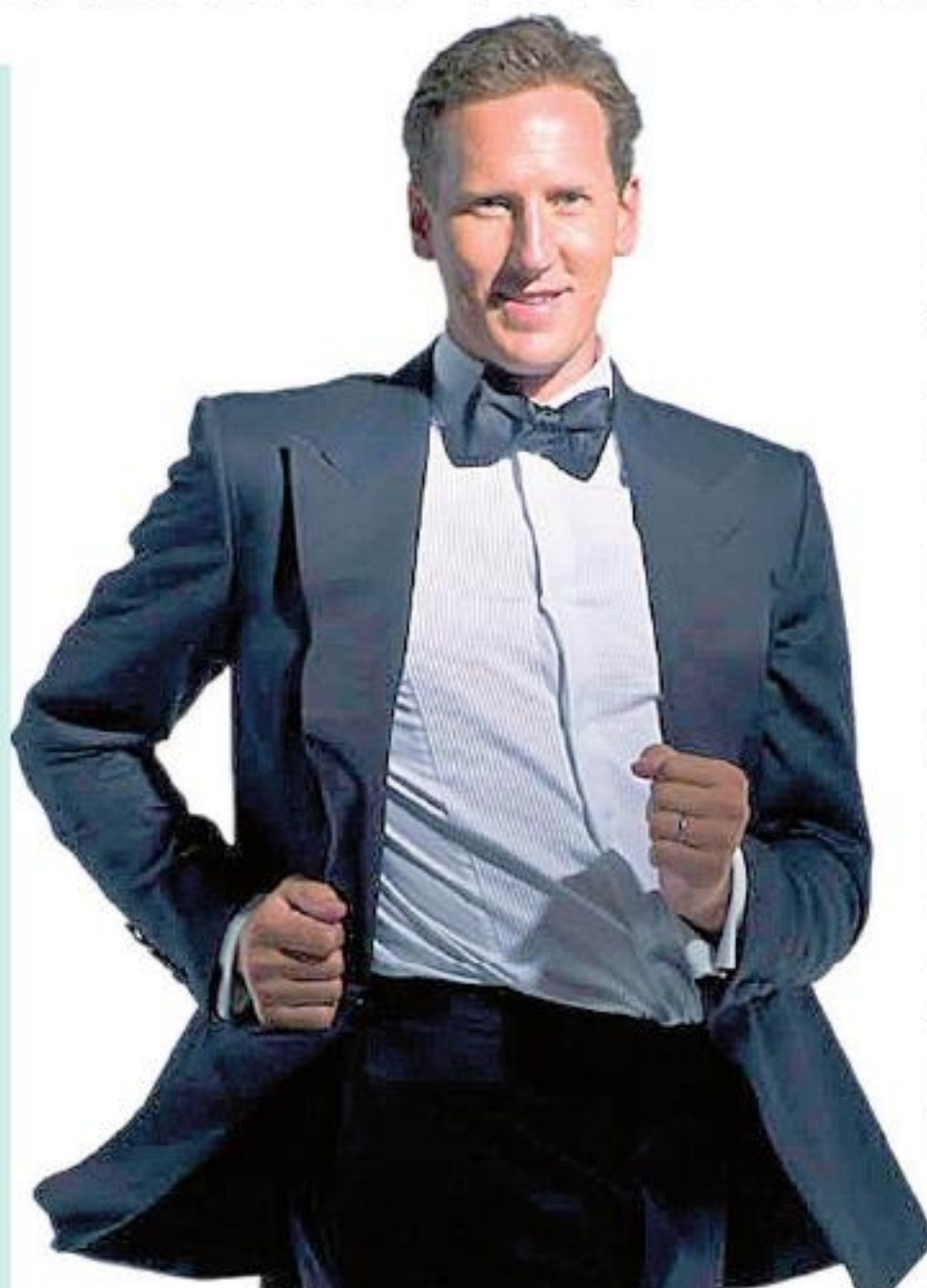
### Brahms show

MUSIC from the library of Brahms is being performed in Oxford on Sunday evening, as part of The Bartholomew Concert.

Singers from around the UK and The Netherlands make up the concert, who regularly perform in the city since being founded in 2001.

It takes place at St John the Evangelist Church from 7.30pm.

For more information, call 01865 613502 or go to [www.sje-oxford.org](http://www.sje-oxford.org).



• Brendan Cole comes to Oxford tomorrow evening

**STRICTLY** Come Dancing star Brendan Cole brings his new show 'License To Thrill' to Oxford's New Theatre tomorrow, following on from his debut theatre tour last year.

Brendan and his cast of 14 musicians and six internationally-known dancers enact a wide range of different dances during the two-hour show.

Waltzes and Foxtrots are performed alongside fast-paced Quicksteps, Tangos and American Smooths, as well as Latin dances that promise to keep audiences entertained throughout the evening.

"My dance cast is truly international, with a collective CV from competition, theatre, stage and television," said Brendan.

"I'm very lucky to have a cast that have been in *Dancing With The Stars* around the world as well as stars from the Broadway hit *Burn the Floor* and, of course, *Strictly Come Dancing*."

Brendan is joined by *Strictly* co-star Aliona Vilani for Saturday's performance, after original leading lady Fauve Hautot was forced to pull out because

By Adam Flinn

[adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk](mailto:adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk)

of injury.

Aliona said: "With this wealth of talent we will ensure audiences have the best seat in the house all night, and I can't wait to see the show back out in theatres again."

The band is led by musical director Barry Robinson, and it features vocalists Ian Mackenzie and Julie Maguire, as well as a number of other British musicians.

On stage throughout the show the band will be performing songs spanning several decades, from Nat King Cole to Gladys Knight to Michael Bublé.

"There is a small nod to James Bond with the music," Barry said about the music in the show.

"One of the big songs is Gladys Knight's 'License to Kill', hence the 'License to Thrill' title, and there is a dance-off between the males in 'Live and Let Die'."

The show starts at 7.30pm. For further details, go to [www.newtheatreoxford.org.uk](http://www.newtheatreoxford.org.uk) or phone 0844 871 3020.

## Semi-Monde at Playhouse



• *Semi-Monde* (Picture by Duncan Cornish)

STUDENTS from the University of Oxford are staging a production of Noel Coward's *Semi-Monde*, taking place at the Oxford Playhouse from Wednesday.

*Semi-Monde* takes the audience through the corridors of the Parisian Ritz at the beginning of the Roaring Twenties, with the jazz age at its height.

It has never before been performed in Oxford, and Coward himself described the comedy as "jagged with sophisticated".

Tickets start from £17, with six performances available until February 22. For more details, go to [www.oxford-playhouse.com](http://www.oxford-playhouse.com) or call 01865 305305.



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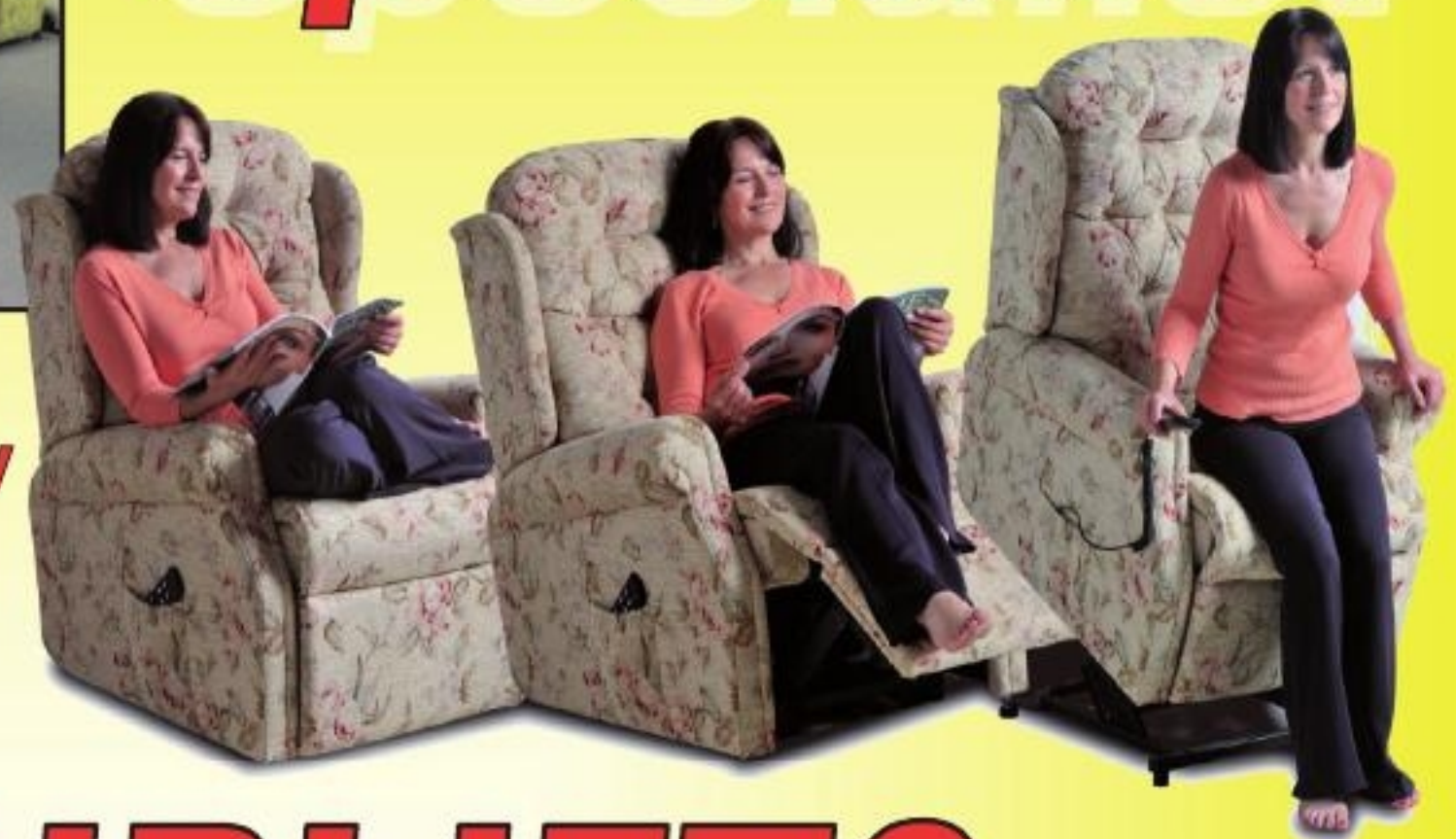
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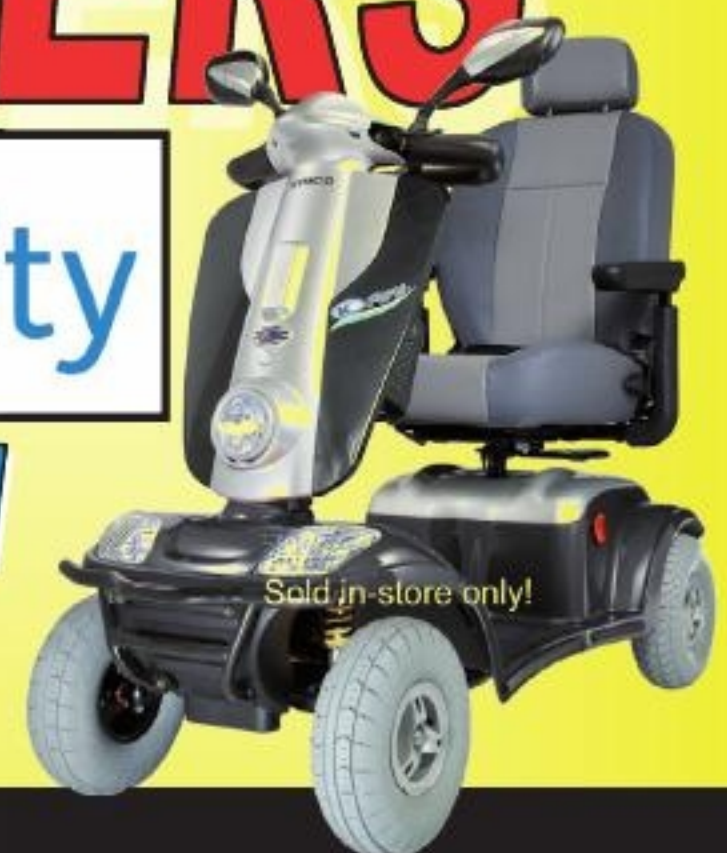


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The packages are for either 50 or 100 guests, an additional 10 guests can be added for a special price of £50 per person. Further guests can be added for a higher price by quotation at time of booking.



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- Poached cushion of Salmon, Dauphinoise Potato, sautéed Mange Tout and Broccoli with a Chive, Lemon & Butter Sauce.
- Roast loin of pork, with crackling and apple sauce, roast potatoes and a selection of Vegetables.

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- Lemon tart with raspberry coulis
- Banoffee pie with caramel sauce
- Pear and ginger cheesecake, pear coulis

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## Cara's got lots of heart

### Pilot piano duo set for O2

PIANO-DRIVEN duo Twenty One Pilots are at Oxford's O2 Academy on Tuesday, as they bring their new set to the stage.

Made up of Tyler Joseph and Josh Dun, the pair are no strangers to the road, and are now touring following the release of their latest album 'Vessel'.

Doors open at 7pm, and more information can be found by calling 0844 477 2000 or on the website: [www.o2academyoxford.co.uk](http://www.o2academyoxford.co.uk).

### Celebrating Julie's legacy

JULIE Madly Deeply comes to the Wallingford Corn Exchange on Saturday, celebrating the music and career of iconic actress Dame Julie Andrews.

The show is performed by West End actress Sarah-Louise Young, and begins at 7.45pm. For more details, go to [www.cornexchange.org.uk](http://www.cornexchange.org.uk) or call 01491 825000.

IRISH-BORN folk singer songwriter Cara Dillon is in Didcot on Saturday, as she prepares for the release of her upcoming album 'A Thousand Hearts'.

Cara is married to fellow musician Sam Lakeman, who will also be appearing in Saturday's show, after they met in the folk super group 'Equation'.

The combination of Cara's vocals and Sam's piano skills was a winning formula, and as well as their original 'Equation' material they have written many other songs.

"In the last couple of years with the smaller gigs, myself and Sam just went out together and didn't bring the rest of the band because we couldn't fit them on stage!" said Cara.

"And they've been going down really well. It's something different for us and a breath of fresh air, and we've really enjoyed doing it."

"This time round, it will be different in that we've got lots of new songs from the new album coming out in the spring, so we're doing lots of new material."

Cara launched her own record

By Adam Flinn

[adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk](mailto:adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk)

label in 2009 for the release of the award-winning album 'Hill of Thieves', following on from her three earlier solo records.

'A Thousand Hearts' will be Cara's fifth solo effort, and she is aiming for an April release date.

She added: "I would say this album is carrying on the same kind of theme from 'Hill of Thieves', because we loved recording it and got such an amazing response."

"We've recorded the album at home, like we have for the others."

"And so for the past few months we've had lots of musicians coming and going, staying and meeting for a drink."

"I'm very excited for the album because a lot of the songs are songs I've grown up with. It's a lovely process."

The show starts at 8pm, and tickets cost £19. For more details, call the box office on 01235 515144 or go to [www.cornerstone-arts.org](http://www.cornerstone-arts.org).



• Cara Dillon and husband Sam Lakeman come to the Cornerstone this weekend

### Blast off!

CHILDREN'S theatre comes to Banbury's Mill Arts Centre on Tuesday, as Kids Carpet Blast Off goes into outer space on a mission to find a brand new sound for their new album.

The fast adventure takes place in a rock 'n' roll universe, with the stars encountering noisy planets, annoyed nursery rhyme characters, shooting stars and Shakespeare.

Two shows take place on Tuesday at 11am and 2pm. For further information, go to [www.themillartscentre.co.uk](http://www.themillartscentre.co.uk) or call 01295 297002.

### Louis tribute

ATTRIBUTE act to the renowned jazz musician Louis Armstrong comes to the Chipping Norton Theatre on Sunday, performed by the award-winning Bateman Brothers Jazz Band.

Hits from the evening will include 'What a Wonderful World', 'Hello Dolly' and 'Cabaret', with the band being joined by singer Maggie Reeday, all-round entertainer Thomas Langham and trumpeter Enrico Tomasso.

It starts at 7.45pm. Go to [www.chippingnortontheatre.co.uk](http://www.chippingnortontheatre.co.uk) for more details.

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**Deborah Davies**  
Solicitor



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**01235 511700**. To place a free event listing  
email the details to  
[whatson@oxfordshireguardian.co.uk](mailto:whatson@oxfordshireguardian.co.uk)

**13 February, 7pm - 8:30pm**  
*Jacqueline du Pré Music Building*  
**ROBIN MICHAEL (CELLO) & DANIEL TONG (PIANO)**  
Michael & Tong perform Brahms cello sonatas  
[www.st-hildas.ox.ac.uk/jdp](http://www.st-hildas.ox.ac.uk/jdp) 01865 286660

**13 - 14 February, 8pm - 9pm**  
*The North Wall, Oxford*  
**BALLAD OF THE BURNING STAR**  
[www.thenorthwall.com/01865319450](http://www.thenorthwall.com/01865319450)

**14 February, 8pm**  
*Wallingford Town Hall*  
**TALK: 'THE EAST OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT: BARTLEMAS LEPPER HOSPITAL, LITTLEMORE PRIORY AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL LANDSCAPES EAST OF OXFORD'**  
by Jane Harrison. She will be talking about the discoveries made by the East Oxford Archaeology Project, and in particular about exciting excavations uncovering more about medieval Oxford, at St Bartholomew's Leper Hospital and the Priory of St Nicholas.  
Visitors (£3) are most welcome.

**14 February**  
*Cornerstone, Didcot*  
**VALENTINES STORIES AND SUPPER**  
Scary Little Girls return to romance in this intimate evening of storytelling celebrating the dark and light of love and relationships. Tales will be told and songs will be sung while you enjoy a delicious two course dining experience in the Café Bar.  
Tickets are just £25 each, including the two course dinner.

**15 February, 10am - 12pm**  
*Shotover Country Park, Oxford, OX3 8TD*  
**TRY ORIENTEERING AT SHOTOVER COUNTRY PARK, OXFORD**  
This is an exciting introduction to orienteering, organised by Thames Valley Orienteering Club, and is aimed at newcomers, families and runners of all ages and abilities. There will be longer courses for runners as well as shorter courses for families and children. You can run, jog or walk at your own pace. Just don't forget your sense of adventure!  
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[www.tvoc.org.uk/saturdayseries](http://www.tvoc.org.uk/saturdayseries)

**15 - 16 February, 10am - 5pm**  
*Waterperry Gardens, Nr Wheatley*  
**SNOWDROP WEEKEND**  
With more than 30 different snowdrop varieties carpeting the ornamental gardens and a spectacular snowdrop valley area, there's no better place to enjoy these little heralds of spring in such a magical setting. Don't miss free guided tours at 11am, 12.30pm and 2.30pm each day of our special snowdrop weekends (Garden entrance fee applies).  
[www.waterperrygardens.co.uk](http://www.waterperrygardens.co.uk)

**15 February, 10am - 3:30pm**  
*Millstream Day Centre, off High Street, Benson*  
**MAMMOTH BARGAIN BOOK SALE**  
Hundreds of books, fiction and non-fiction, for both adults and children, paperbacks and hardbacks, all at bargain prices. Also puzzles, CDs, records and DVDs.  
**FREE entry.**  
Refreshments, delicious homemade light lunches and afternoon teas will be served.  
01491 838580

**15 February, 8pm**  
*Cornerstone, Didcot*  
**CARA DILLON**  
Tickets £19/£17 conc.  
01235 515144 [www.cornerstone-arts.org](http://www.cornerstone-arts.org)

**19 February - 20 February**  
*Cornerstone, Didcot*  
**OMID DJALILI**  
Omid will be performing his new fully-formed show to celebrate coming back on to the touring circuit  
01235 515 144.  
[www.cornerstone-arts.org](http://www.cornerstone-arts.org)

**19 Feb - 22 February**  
*Oxford Playhouse*  
**SEMI-MONDE**  
Noël Coward's rarely seen play. Powerful and daring show, bursting with decadence and acerbic wit.  
[www.oxfordplayhouse.com](http://www.oxfordplayhouse.com)

**19 February, 8pm**  
*Comrades Club, Newbury Street, Wantage*  
**BOB DWYER'S BIX AND PIECES**  
An evening of traditional jazz played by a fine London band of long standing. Tickets on the door £10.  
01993 811678 (tickets) 01235 765648 (music)

**21 February, 8pm**  
*Cornerstone, Didcot*  
**KRIS DREVER AND EAMONN COYNE 'STORY-MAP' TOUR**  
Tickets £14.50/£13 conc.  
01235 515144  
[www.cornerstone-arts.org](http://www.cornerstone-arts.org)

**21 February, 7pm - 11pm**  
*The Cellar*  
**HARLEIGHBLU LIVE AT THE CELLAR**  
Fast rising singer Harleighblu kicks off the year with a run of UK dates in February & March showcasing a new live band set-up, with fresh electronic elements and visuals. This tour builds on an incredible 2013 which saw Nottingham native Harleighblu acknowledged as one of the most promising young stars of UK music for her arresting, charismatic voice and edgy brand of hip hop-infused soul.

**21 February, 7:30pm - 9:30pm**  
*The North Wall, Oxford*  
**LA TRAVIATA**  
Verdi's classical tale of love and sacrifice has been thrilling audiences for generations. This is the story of Violetta and the three men who rule her life. Set in Atlantic City in 1928 this new production reveals the hypocrisy and heartache behind the glittering façade of the prohibition era's speakeasies and bootlegging.  
[www.thenorthwall.com/01865319450](http://www.thenorthwall.com/01865319450)

**22 February, 8:20pm - 11pm**  
*The Wheatheaf High St Oxford*  
**GAPPY TOOTH INDUSTRIES**  
20.45 Beard Of Destiny  
21.30 The Lucky Club  
22.15 The Heavy Dexters  
£4.50 on the door, cheaper at [www.wegotickets.com/event/255751](http://www.wegotickets.com/event/255751)

**22 - 23 February, 10am - 5pm**  
*Waterperry Gardens, Nr Wheatley*  
**SNOWDROP WEEKEND**

**22 - 23 February, 7:30am - 9:30am**  
*The Abbey, Sutton Courtenay near Oxford*  
**ALAN HEEKS: INNER PEACE IN A CHANGING WORLD**  
A unique weekend retreat on February 22-23 will show how the great spiritual teachers can help us find happiness and resilience amid the uncertainties of modern life.  
Inner Peace in a Changing World will explore teachings of Jesus, Buddha and Muhammad that show us how to be centered, and connect with humanity's role as stewards of the Earth. It also draws on modern approaches, such as Joanna Macy's Deep Ecology.  
01235 847401

**22 February, 8pm**  
*The Forge*  
**KRIS DREVER AND EAMONN COYNE**  
Kris Drever's voice and guitar forms part of the backbone of today's contemporary roots scene. Widely admired as a solo artist, collaborator, and member of folk supergroup Lau, he is a phenomenal and prolific artist.  
01256 844244 [www.anvilarts.org.uk](http://www.anvilarts.org.uk)



**Friday 21 February 8pm**  
*Cornerstone Arts Centre, Didcot*  
**KRIS DREVER AND EAMONN COYNE 'STORYMAP' TOUR**  
Tickets £14.50/£13 conc.  
Tel 01235 515144 [www.cornerstone-arts.org](http://www.cornerstone-arts.org)

**22 February, 3pm and 7.45pm**  
*The Anvil*  
**ANTON DU BEKE BALLROOM TO BROADWAY**  
Memorable dances alongside sensational new choreography  
01256 844244 [www.anvilarts.org.uk](http://www.anvilarts.org.uk)

**25 February - 26 February, 8pm - 9pm**  
*The North Wall, Oxford*  
**BRAND NEW ANCIENTS**  
Poet and spoken word artist Kate Tempest tells an everyday epic over an exhilarating live score played by tuba, cello, violin, drums and electronics, that finds the gods of today all around us and reveals that our true heroes are much closer than we think.  
[www.thenorthwall.com/01865319450](http://www.thenorthwall.com/01865319450)

**25 February - 1 March**  
*Oxford Playhouse*  
**DIAL M FOR MURDER**  
This hit show stars Christopher Timothy, best known for his roles in popular TV shows All Creatures Great and Small and Doctors. Famously directed on screen by Alfred Hitchcock, this exciting and claustrophobic production is directed by Lucy Bailey, who has worked for many of the country's leading theatre companies, including the National Theatre and Shakespeare's Globe.  
[www.oxfordplayhouse.com](http://www.oxfordplayhouse.com)

**26 February, 8:30pm**  
*The Lamb Inn, Mill Street, Wantage*  
**DAVE MOORWOOD'S RASCALS OF RHYTHM**  
with special guest - cornet player Andy Woon  
No admission charge.

**28 February, 8pm - 8pm**  
*Jacqueline du Pré Music Building*  
**MAHAN ESFAHANI (HARPSICHORD)**  
Spanning four centuries, this evening's programme by Esfahani covers the gamut of the harpsichord repertoire.  
[www.st-hildas.ox.ac.uk/jdp](http://www.st-hildas.ox.ac.uk/jdp) 01865 286660

**28 February, 5pm**  
*Oxford Playhouse*  
**FOUNDER OF THE BIG ISSUE, JOHN BIRD**  
a personal tale that is both achingly funny and powerfully inspiring. John will be signing copies of his latest books, including The Necessity of Poverty, after the event.  
[www.oxfordplayhouse.com](http://www.oxfordplayhouse.com)

**1 March, 11am - 12pm**  
*The North Wall, Oxford*  
**GRANDPA'S RAILWAY**  
Featuring a working model railway, live music and two very playful characters, Grandpa's Railway is a journey of discovery that explores the past, illuminates the present and lays new tracks for the future.  
Tickets: £7 [www.thenorthwall.com/01865319450](http://www.thenorthwall.com/01865319450)

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**1 March, 9am - 5pm**  
*The Mix on Mill Street, Wantage*  
**GIRLGUIDING TAKEOVER**  
Find out what Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers do!  
Have you considered helping?  
Have a go at crafts  
Look inside a tent  
Share your memories of Guiding  
Just come and visit to say hello!

**1 March, 7:30pm**  
*St Mary's Church, Streatley on Thames*  
**CHARITY CONCERT FOR GREAT ORMOND STREET HOSPITAL**

All pieces are either light classical or traditional music, (instrumental pieces, arias or poems) and all are cheerful and also short. It's a slightly unusual form of concert in that there are between 20 and 30 voluntary performers who have very generously given their time to perform one or two pieces each, as solos, duo or trios. (Tickets £5) [stmarysconcerts@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:stmarysconcerts@hotmail.co.uk)

**1 March, 5pm**  
*Vue Bicester. Cineworld Didcot. Phoenix Picturehouse Oxford. The Regal Henley-on-Thames. Cineworld Witney.*

**THE MET: LIVE IN HD**  
**BORODIN: PRINCE IGOR**  
This new production, marking director Dmitri Tcherniakov's Met debut, is a new version constructed by him in collaboration with conductor Gianandrea Noseda and taken from all of Borodin's known music and orchestrations.  
<http://Metopera.org/uk>

**1 March, 2pm - 4pm**  
*Cumnor Village Hall*  
**JUMBLE SALE**  
Raising money for the Maizie Rose appeal.

**1 - 24 March, 10am - 4pm**  
*The Sewell Centre Gallery, Radley College, Abingdon*  
**OXFORD ART SOCIETY SPRING MEMBERS EXHIBITION**

The show is a selected exhibition, showing some of the best Artists, Printmakers and Sculptors in Oxfordshire. The exhibition is an exciting view of contemporary work by Oxfordshire Artists in many styles and mediums and showing the creativity of it's members.

**1 March, 11am - 2pm**  
*Fry's Hill Park, Blackbird Leys*  
**THE BIG TREE PLANT**

Come along to plant young trees (whips) in Fry's Hill Park, on the mound next to the skate park. Spades, gloves and refreshments will be provided. Wear warm clothes and strong shoes. It will be a fun day out for young and old! Children need to be accompanied by an adult.  
[www.tcv.org.uk/southeast](http://www.tcv.org.uk/southeast)

**1 March, 7pm**  
*Wantage Parish Church*  
**SOUTH WALES MALE VOICE CHOIR**  
[www.wantagebetjeman.com/sounds-of-wales](http://www.wantagebetjeman.com/sounds-of-wales)

**2 March**  
*Orchard Centre Didcot*  
**DIDCOT SUNDAY MARKET: MOTHERING SUNDAY GIFTS**  
0777 1967633

**3 - 4 March**  
*Oxford Town Hall's ballroom*  
**THE NIGHT BALL**  
Part of Play house Plays Out, The Night Ball is an exuberant display of colourful choreography

accompanied by a brilliantly inspired soundtrack. The audience will take their seat at a table on the edge of the dance floor and watch wonderful dancers up close. After the performances, the music plays on, giving you the chance to throw your own moves or be partnered by a professional dancer.  
[www.oxfordplayhouse.com](http://www.oxfordplayhouse.com)

**4 March, 8pm**  
*Fat Lil's, Witney*  
**DANNY & THE CHAMPIONS OF THE WORLD**  
With support from Sean Taylor + Trevor Moss & Hannah-Lou. Tickets £8 from Rapture in Witney, Truck Store Oxford and online [www.wegotickets.com](http://www.wegotickets.com)

**5 March - 6 March, 8pm**  
*The North Wall, Oxford*  
**HAMMER AND TONGS**  
Hammer & Tongs digs deep into the human compulsion to argue the toss. From farcical fisticuffs at a wedding disco to squabbling for control of the TV remote, Theatre Alibi presents a very human comedy - physical, funny, absurd, musical, moving, and absolutely bloody-minded.  
[www.thenorthwall.com/01865319450](http://www.thenorthwall.com/01865319450)

**5 March - 8 March**  
*The Mill Arts Centre, Banbury*  
**GOD OF CARNAGE**  
The play is a sharp account of two couples tiptoeing around their mutual dislike. Described as a comedy of manners without the manners, the play deals with the aftermath of a playground altercation between two boys and what happens when their parents meet to talk about it. As the evening progresses, the alcohol flows and tensions emerge until finally the gloves come off.  
[01295 279002](http://01295279002) [www.themillartscenre.co.uk](http://www.themillartscenre.co.uk)

**5 March, 7:30pm - 10pm**  
*Oxford Town Hall*  
**VERDI'S REQUIEM**  
Don't miss the chance to hear this performance of Verdi's stunning masterpiece! St Giles Orchestra, Bicester Choral & Operatic Society, and Wantage Choral Society are joining forces to bring you what promises to be a fantastic evening in the fittingly splendid surroundings of Oxford Town Hall. Soloists: Karen Richmond, soprano; Jeanette Ager, contralto; Martin Quinn, tenor; Laurence Williams, bass.  
[01865 305305](http://01865305305)

**5 March - 8 March**  
*Oxford Playhouse*  
**THE CAUCASIAN CHALK CIRCLE**  
University of Oxford student company Screw the Looking Glass, whose previous production Another Country was a Playhouse hit, presents this epic fable of comedy and adventure. Brecht's satirical masterpiece explores the far-reaching consequences of the smallest moral choices, pitting individual integrity against corruption and injustice.  
[www.oxfordplayhouse.com](http://www.oxfordplayhouse.com)

**5 March - 8 March, 7:45pm - 9:45pm**  
*The Mill Arts Centre, Banbury*  
**BANBURY CROSS PLAYERS PRESENT YAZMINA REZA'S GOD OF CARNAGE (TRANSLATED BY CHRISTOPHER HAMPTON)**  
A playground altercation between two young boys brings their parents together in an attempt to resolve the matter. The evening progresses. The alcohol flows. Tensions emerge and finally the gloves come off

in this brutally entertaining, 2009 Tony Award winning play. This play contains strong language  
TICKETS £ 8.00 / £ 9.00  
[01295 279002](http://01295279002) / [www.themillarts-centre.co.uk](http://www.themillarts-centre.co.uk)

**5 March - 16 March**  
*various locations around Oxford*  
**OXFORD INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FESTIVAL**  
Around 30 exciting events are happening across 10 days in various locations around Oxford and the wider county. A very special line-up of activities is taking place to mark this milestone year, with the theme of 'Changes for Women, Women Making Changes'.  
[www.oxfordinternationalwomens-festival.co.uk](http://www.oxfordinternationalwomens-festival.co.uk)

**7 March, 8pm - 9:30pm**  
*Merton College Chapel, Oxford*  
**HOW DESOLATE LIES THE CITY - HILARY TERM CONCERT**  
A concert of Lenten choral music by Brahms, Bach, Mauersberger and Verdi, concluding with Pizzetti's Requiem.  
<http://schola.ticketsource.co.uk/>

**8 March, 8pm - 10pm**  
*Jacqueline du Pré Music Building*  
**FITZWILLIAM QUARTET**  
A wonderfully rich programme from the renowned Fitzwilliam Quartet.  
[www.st-hildas.ox.ac.uk/jdp](http://www.st-hildas.ox.ac.uk/jdp) 01865 286660

**9 March, 3pm**  
*Henley Town Hall*  
**ALLEN DIGITAL THEATRE ORGAN - ROBERT WOLFE**  
£7 concessions £6.50  
[www.henleyorgantrust.org.uk](http://www.henleyorgantrust.org.uk)

**9 March, 1pm - 3pm**  
*St Gregory the Great School, Cricket Road, Oxford OX4 3DR*  
**OXFORD NCT NEARLY NEW SALE**  
Sale of 1000s of good quality nearly new items including clothes, toys, books and equipment for babies and small children. From 1pm to 3pm (doors open 12.45 for NCT members/heavily pregnant women). All welcome. More details including how to register as a seller visit: [www.nct.org.uk/branches/oxford/oxford-nct-nearly-new-sales](http://www.nct.org.uk/branches/oxford/oxford-nct-nearly-new-sales) or email [nearlynewsale.oxford@nct.org.uk](mailto:nearlynewsale.oxford@nct.org.uk) [www.nct.org.uk/branches/oxford/oxford-nct-nearly-new-sales](http://www.nct.org.uk/branches/oxford/oxford-nct-nearly-new-sales)

**9 March**  
*O2 Academy Oxford*  
**THE SELECTER**  
0844 477 2000

**13 March, 8pm**  
*The North Wall, Oxford*  
**THE ADVENTURES OF ALVIN SPUTNIK: DEEP SEA EXPLORER**  
Seas have risen, billions have died. Alvin Sputnik must venture to the bottom of the ocean to save humanity. Direct from sell-out seasons in New York, Sydney, and Auckland, this piece uses projection, puppetry and live music to tell a micro-epic about enduring love and the end of the world.  
[www.thenorthwall.com/01865319450](http://www.thenorthwall.com/01865319450)

**13 March, 7:45pm**  
*Sparsholt, Near Wantage*  
**'BOOKS AT THE BARN'**  
with Ed Stourton  
[www.wantagebetjeman.com/books-at-the-barn](http://www.wantagebetjeman.com/books-at-the-barn)

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[www.bartholomew.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.bartholomew.oxon.sch.uk)

## RUGBY LEAGUE IN OXFORD

Rugby League is currently being developed at grassroots level in Oxford and Bartholomew School is at the centre of its development. The school currently has three year groups playing rugby league and with the sport also being developed at Abingdon & Witney College they now do not have to travel huge distances in order to play fixtures.

Last year saw a new semi professional side come to Oxford and play in Championship One. Bartholomew School PE Teacher John Connaughton was lucky enough to sign for the club in their debut season and he made his professional debut against Halifax in the Challenge Cup. John is now focussing his efforts on developing the next generation as there is now a clear player pathway in Oxford for youngsters to progress all the way to the top in the sport. 'The coaching that I received from the likes of Tony Benson and Martin Roddy was the best I've ever had and as a result I am now able to pass on what I've learned to the students I teach at Bartholomew'

Bartholomew Sixth Formers are currently involved in a Project that has been set up in line with Sky Sports Living for Sport. The project sees 70 of the current Year 7 boys representing their tutor groups as they play fixtures against each other in a rugby 7's league. The sixth formers involved completed a Rugby League Young Leaders Award last year and they then took on coaching roles with the Year 7 tutor groups beginning in November 2013. The Rugby League World Cup was used as part of the project and all students involved took part in a draw which determined which country they would represent once the league fixtures got underway. The games are now being played every Thursday lunchtime and it sees the likes of England taking on New Zealand as well as other countries such as Fiji and the USA.



## BARTHOLOMEW STUDENTS GAIN RUGBY LEAGUE QUALIFICATION

The sport is providing a number of students with some excellent opportunities, the sixth form media students are filming games and conducting pitch side interviews of the coaches and players which is all edited then used in videos. There are also a number of sixth formers who are taking on the role of head coach and some of the Year 10 and 11 Sports Leaders and Gifted and Talented students are their assistant coaches so it is hoped they can carry the project on year on year.

Three of Bartholomew's sixth form students achieved their Level 1 UKCC Certificate in Coaching Rugby League on Sunday 26th January after completing two full days of coaching and assessment.

After the successful delivery of the Rugby League Young Leaders Award in July 2013, Robyn Coburn, Adam Moss and John Rees were all asked to apply for a place on the Level 1 Coaching Course as course leader Andy Lindley spotted leadership potential in the three.

The newly qualified coaches will have the chance to develop their coaching skills in rugby league by becoming involved in the schools Sky Sports Living for Sport Project currently being run for the year 7 boys. It is an inter form rugby league 7's tournament named 'The Steve Prescott Memorial Shield' after the rugby league legend Steve Prescott who sadly lost the battle against cancer in November 2013.

It is hoped that the three coaches can go on to complete their Level 2 qualification at some point in the near future so the delivery can then branch out into the local primary schools.



From left to right: Robyn Coburn, Adam Moss, John Rees and Andy Lindley (course leader)

**Two Year 8 students,**  
Pavel Asenov and Jake Holton,  
have qualified to be members of the  
England Junior Chess Squad.

Pavel will play with the national squad in the  
Czech Republic in April, and hopes  
to play in the European Youth  
Championship in Georgia in October.

Jake will play with the national squad in  
Gibraltar in August and is nominated to  
play in November at the World Schools  
Championship in Brazil.

Both Pavel and Jake play regularly in  
tournaments against adults at  
the weekends and are active members  
of the Witney Chess Club.



## BARTHOLOMEW STUDENTS SELECTED FOR ENGLAND HOCKEY

It's quite a rarity for 3 students from the same school to be selected to train for the England Hockey Squad (Under 16's and Under 18's) and in a sport where most successful students hail from private schooling, quite an accolade.

The skill, passion and determination (not to mention the parental taxi service) of Lucy Millington (Year 11), Callum Chapman (Year 10) and Ethan Chapman (Year 12) has seen the students training once a month with the England coaches. Lucy and Callum training for the Under 16's (girls and boys respectively) and Ethan the Under 18's. Whether the students are selected for positions in the England squad will be confirmed after the last of a series of Hockey Camps, taking place in February half term.

All three have now secured places in the England squad.

***Congratulations to them all!***

Louisa Cox  
Marketing and Publicity/Bartholomew School





# Puzzles

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## Sudoku

Place a number from 1 to 9 in each empty cell so that each 3x3 block, column, and full row includes each of the numbers from 1 to 9 only once. **EASY/MEDIUM/HARD**

9		1		5		3	4	
		5	1				6	7
	3		4	2	8			
8	9	7			6			5
	6		8		4		1	
3			5			6	8	2
			9	4	1			
6	7					1		
	4	8		6		5		3

6	5						1	7
3		4		9		2		6
	3		6		5		2	
8								5
	6		8		4		9	
5		3		6		9		1
2	1						8	4

			8		1	2		
	3	6					4	
2	5							
7				9				
		4	2		5	8		
				7				9
							3	7
	8					6	5	
		2	3		9			

## Two speed crossword

### Quick Clues Across

- 4 Ratify (6)
- 8 Part (7)
- 9 Is of use (6)
- 10 Servant (9)
- 11 Encourage (4)
- 13 Hard structure for biting (5)
- 14 Distribute widely (7)
- 16 Expels (7)
- 18 Harmful bacteria (5)
- 19 Soon (4)
- 21 Seasoning (9)
- 22 Kind of shoe (6)
- 23 Stupidity (7)
- 24 Egyptian leader (6)

### Quick Clues Down

- 1 Wellbred men (9)
- 2 Heed (9)
- 3 Links (5)
- 5 Measurements (4)
- 6 Turn upsidedown (6)
- 7 Man who rules others (6)
- 9 Light meal (5)
- 11 Farthest (9)
- 12 Sprout (9)
- 15 Backless seat (5)
- 16 Fruit (6)
- 17 Indicates (6)
- 20 Snake (5)
- 21 Worry (4)

### Cryptic Clues Across

- 4 It upsets us to be insensitive (6)
- 8 Calmed down when all agreed (7)
- 9 Not an upright type (6)
- 10 He's a key worker (9)
- 11 Plots for sleepyheads (4)
- 13 Spruce up for the wedding (5)
- 14 They should know the rules of the game (7)
- 16 Hold it! (7)
- 18 Mock the noisy bumpkin (5)
- 19 Muse about the birds (4)
- 21 Explosives at the sack factory (9)
- 22 Followed Sue in the end (6)
- 23 Her telephone call is fishy (7)
- 24 I'd get in rank more neatly (6)

### Cryptic Clues Down

- 1 Joint opportunity in space (5,4)
- 2 Not footwear for sailors! (9)
- 3 It appears one should look at the manuscript (5)
- 5 Where one's liable to get into hot water (4)
- 6 It's not so pretty to lure G.I. (6)
- 7 The sexes are about to take a hundred what intemperance! (6)
- 9 Times change newspaper articles (5)
- 11 William fed up with the poster? (9)
- 12 Let's have no humbug getting the sailors out of bed (9)
- 15 54 I'd make black and blue (5)
- 16 Join me in a small amount (6)
- 17 Tended to sunder apart (6)
- 20 He's revolting (5)
- 21 Destiny we hear is a holiday (4)

	1		2		3		4	5		6		7
8												
							9					
10												
										11	12	
13							14					
						15						
16		17							18			
19								20				
						21						
22												
							23					
24												

## Scribble space

## Last week's solutions

8	3	7	4	6	5	9	2	1
1	5	6	2	3	9	7	4	8
9	2	4	7	1	8	3	5	6
2	4	1	6	8	3	5	9	7
3	9	8	5	7	2	1	6	4
6	7	5	1	9	4	8	3	2
4	1	2	3	5	7	6	8	9
7	8	3	9	4	6	2	1	5
5	6	9	8	2	1	4	7	3

1	4	9	8	2	3	6	5	7
6	5	7	1	4	9	8	2	3
8	2	3	6	5	7	1	4	9
4	9	8	2	3	6	5	7	1
2	3	6	5	7	1	4	9	8
5	7	1	4	9	8	2	3	6
3	6	5	7	1	4	9	8	2
9	8	2	3	6	5	7	1	4
7	1	4	9	8	2	3	6	5

7	9	6	3	5	4	2	8	1
5	8	4	7	1	2	6	3	9
3	2	1	9	6	8	7	4	5
4	1	8	2	9	6	5	7	3
2	5	3	4	8	7	1	9	6
9	6	7	1	3	5	4	2	8
1	7	5	8	2	9	3	6	4
6	4	9	5	7	3	8	1	2
8	3	2	6	4	1	9	5	7

### Quick Crossword

Across: 1 Podium 7 Plateau 8 Incisor 9 Tiers  
10 Geography 12 Rag 13 Seas 15 Terrace 17 Hate 19 Hen  
21 Fattening 22 Wheel 23 Oppress 24 Suction 25 Unites  
Down: 1 Priggish 2 Doctor 3 Upsurge 4 Hasty 5 Recede  
6 Fuss 7 Preparation 11 Gate 13 Seen 14 Suggests 16  
Cheapen 18 Trench 20 Nicest 21 Flair 22 Wise

### Cryptic Crossword

Across: 1 Steers 7 Galatea 8 Uncover 9 Phlox 10 Film stars  
12 See 13 Isle 15 Addenda 17 Gist 19 Egg 21 Teaspoons  
22 Delay 23 Nettled 24 Retreat 25 Adonis  
Down: 1 Stuffing 2 Excels 3 Revised 4 Claps 5 Stalls 6 Marx  
7 Grease paint 11 Meat 13 Iago 14 Episodes 16 Deputed  
18 Salute 20 Goblin 21 Types 22 Dark

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# Competitions

## WIN tickets to the Ideal Home Show for you and a friend

THIS March, the award winning Ideal Home Show will return for its 106th year and we are offering five lucky readers the chance to go for free!

Running from 14th - 30th March at London's Earls Court and with seven sections including: Ideal Interiors, Ideal Show Homes, Ideal Gardens, Ideal Home Improvements, Ideal Technology, Ideal Food & Housewares, Ideal Shopping and Ideal Woman this year's show is set to be the biggest and best yet.

Some of the stand outs of the show will be **Celebrities Galore** - hosted by fabulous celebrity Ambassadors which include; TV presenter and architect George Clarke, gadget expert Suzi Perry,

**Closing date**  
Friday, February 28

food critic Gregg Wallace, garden expert Diarmuid Gavin, interiors icon Laurence Llewellyn-Bowen, and TV presenter Melinda Messenger as ambassador of Ideal Woman, there will be more live demonstrations and expert advice than the show has ever seen.

**The Super Theatre** - the celebrity ambassadors will also be taking to the returning Ideal Super Theatre - a purpose-built stage which will host talks and demonstrations from the celeb-

rities and a whole host of other household names including Martin Lewis, Founder and Editor of Moneysavingexpert.com, making it the ultimate place to pick up the tips and tricks to improve your home.

**Ideal Show Village** - The centre piece of this year's show will see a series of 5 Show Homes, the largest Village to date, built in Earls Court for visitors to explore. The Prince's Foundation for the Built Environment has this year invested in three different homes to suit different markets - first time buyers, families or retired couples.

In addition the Ideal Home Show will also feature a further unique show home:

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So whether you're a domestic goddess or a DIY disaster there's something for everyone!

To win tickets for you and a friend simply answer the following question:

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**IS IT 106 YEARS, 60 YEARS OR 16 YEARS?**

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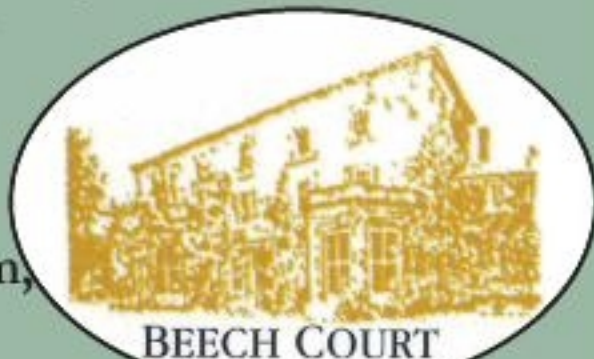
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Wednesday 5 March 7.30pm

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Friday 7 – Saturday 8 March 8pm

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Monday 10 March 7.30pm

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# Hair & beauty feature

## Put some bounce in your bonce

JANUARY and February are undoubtedly the month's of diet talk and slimming chat. But there's one area that many women are in constant pursuit of fattening up - the top of our heads. It's estimated that around 10.9 million women in the UK have fine hair - that's 40% of the female population, according to Kantar World Panel consumer research.

While the ageing process can result in thinning tresses due to hormonal changes, a dramatic difference in hair texture can strike at any age, with triggers including poor diet, extreme stress, hormonal imbalances or childbirth.

"Big or 'fat' hair is the picture of health and can make even the most ordinary of outfits look fabulous," says Katie Hamburger, creative stylist at Regis

By Lisa Haynes

### Salons.

"It's thick, healthy and full of life, so it all starts with keeping your hair in great condition."

Go big on the prep and fling back a fuller mane for spring.

### Body building

It's impossible to create more hair, but you can lather up with products that create thicker, healthier locks right from the follicle.

Choose a thickening shampoo, apply into your palms and give your scalp a DIY massage for a couple of minutes. Massaging the scalp can stimulate blood

flow, which can strengthen hair roots.

"Apply a light conditioner to ends only, so the strands aren't weighed down by any extra product," Hamburger advises.

For an extra volumising boost, she recommends a leave-in treatment specifically for thinning hair, which strengthens and improves the density of each hair strand, while creating volume and thickening the hair.

### Heavyweight styling

How you wear your hair can make all the difference between fine or fabulous. Avoid styles that hang limp around your face and opt for bodyifying layers and clever cuts.

"A shorter cut will help when it comes to thinning hair, as well as adding in

layers to create body and movement," says Norris Ogario, founder and creative director of Ogario.

"Trying a different parting can also work wonders - a sweeping fringe can create the illusion of thicker locks."

Gentle waves will add extra texture and a fuller appearance. Place inch sections of hair into medium-size rollers all over the head, apply heat with a hairdryer, then let them cool completely.

If you prefer your hair off your face, certain styles can give the gift of volume - try a Bardot-inspired ponytail that involves a bit of backcombing on day-old hair.

### 3D colour boost

Hair colour has evolved from simple 'blonde', 'brunette' or 'cover grey' ambitions to transformative textural

results.

"Ask for a multi-tonal colour - it's a bit like a 3D effect," says Josh Wood, hair colour expert. "If you have a slightly darker, medium and lighter colour, it will look as though you have almost three times the amount of hair than with a single shade."

Using different tones on different areas of the hair, a skilled colourist will play on light and dark to create the illusion of thicker looking hair.

"Roots that are a little bit darker and ends that look lighter will generally make your hair look fuller," Wood advises.

Simply having colour in your hair can also have a physical effect. Hair that's coloured has been chemically processed, which gives the feeling of slightly bulkier tresses.

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Term Dates 4 September 2014 – 4 July 2015

Age of Pupils 3 - 13

Sex of pupils Boys & Girls

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Founded 1947

**Entry requirements** As a non selective school, we do not ask prospective pupils to sit an entrance exam.

**Curriculum** Our broad, balanced curriculum enable children to develop lively and enquiring young minds and the curriculum allows for differentiation within year groups.

**Extra-curricular activities** We offer fantastic co-curricular opportunities ranging from traditional sports such as cricket, netball, tennis and hockey to other sports including fencing, sailing, horse riding and archery.

**Food and nutrition** All food is prepared for by our in-house catering department and we can cater for a wide range of dietary requirements.

**Schools philosophy** We provide a nurturing yet challenging school environment which ably prepares children for life's journey. Our secure and friendly learning environment inspires individual excellence and ensures that children progress to their chosen



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Head of School Jo Halliday BSc Hons DipM NPQH

Age of pupils 11 - 18

Mixed secondary school – Ofsted Outstanding

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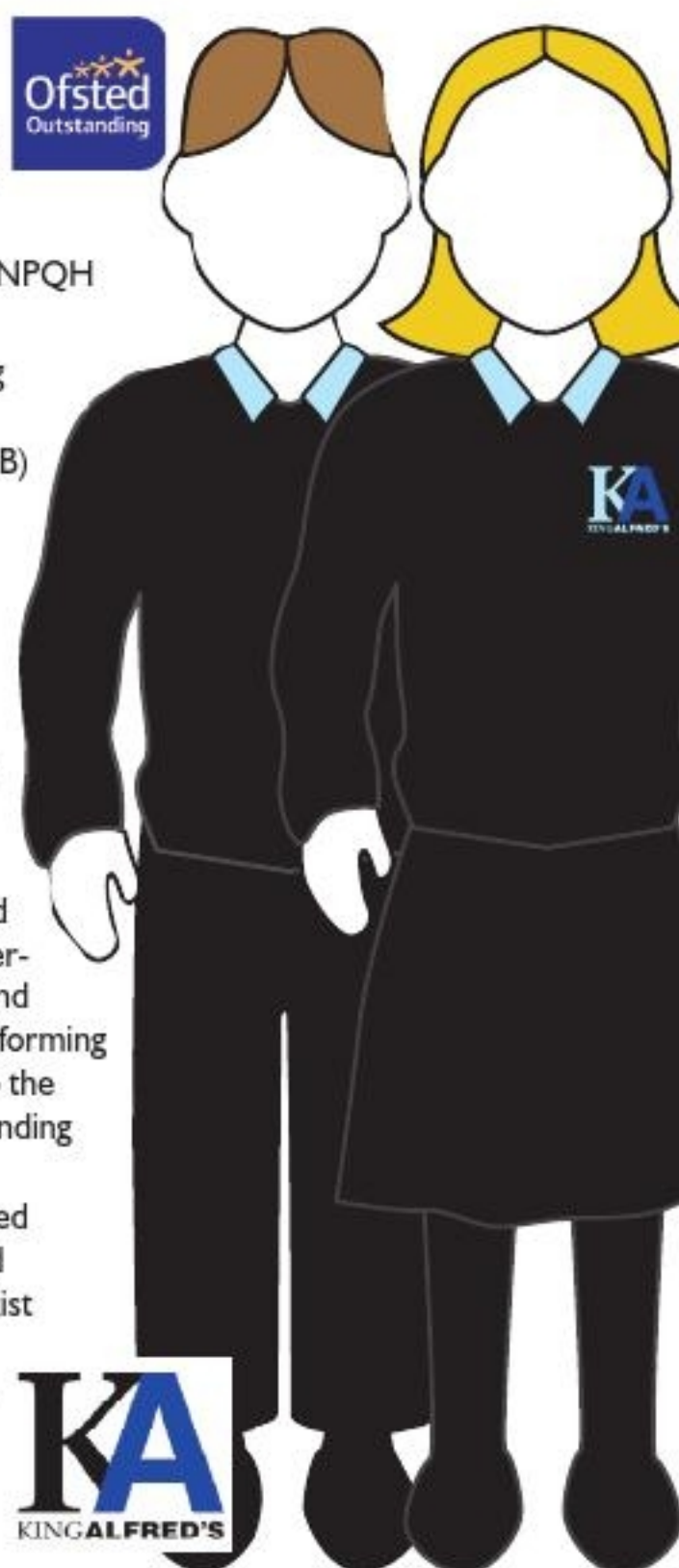
Founded 1597

**Curriculum** Two year Key Stage 3 followed by three year Key Stage 4, allowing for a personalised curriculum to ensure students remain focused and motivated throughout their studies and every individual achieves to the best of their potential.

**Extra Curricular Activities** Highly acclaimed enrichment programme includes over 100 after-school clubs and activities plus range of trips and visits. Highly Able Programme for highest performing students. Curriculum enrichment is central to the ethos of the academy and underpins its outstanding academic success.

**School's Philosophy** The Academy's continued success is centred on outstanding teaching and learning and the excellent relationships that exist between students, staff, parents and our community. King Alfred's believes that active learning is the key to academic success, along with the breadth of educational opportunities offered beyond the classroom.

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### DIDCOT GIRLS' SCHOOL

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OX11 7AJ

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Head Teacher Mrs R Warwick MA Oxon, NPQH

Sex of pupils Girls (11-16), Mixed (16-18)

A dynamic and exciting school well on its way to being outstanding in all areas. We are an all girls' secondary school with a mixed sixth form, Didcot Sixth Form College, run in partnership with St Birinus School. Last year's GCSE results place us in the top performing state schools in the county with over 70% 5A\*-C inc English and Maths and 25% of students gaining 5 or more A and A\* grades. Record A level results at all levels in 2013.

**Curriculum:** Students study for three years for GCSE qualifications, building independent learning skills, following a two year Key Stage 3 (Yrs 7 & 8). Students are able to study Mandarin Chinese, Spanish, French and German to A level and results in this largely traditional curriculum are excellent with E-Bacc achievement very high year on year. The Ulysses Group is offered for gifted and talented students in Key Stage 4 feeding into the Russell Group in the sixth form: over 30% of students achieved places at Russell Group universities last summer.

**Extra Curricular:** We foster a love of learning through a rich and high quality range of extra-curricular trips, clubs and activities. Students are able to travel China, Spain, France, Germany and Sweden each year. Of particular note, our Science Clubs have excellent links with Oxford University and our sports and performing arts provision is exceptional.

**School's Philosophy:** We are committed to developing leadership skills in girls through our bespoke Leadership Ladder and a vibrant House system. We offer a happy and inclusive school and a strong community ethos. All girls' education enables our students to

develop confidence, resilience and exceptionally high levels of aspiration. We aspire to excellence in all that we do.

[www.didcotgirls.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.didcotgirls.oxon.sch.uk)



Didcot Girls' School

'Committed to Excellence'



### KINGHAM HILL SCHOOL

Kingham, Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire OX7 6TH

01608 658999 [secretary@kingham-hill.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:secretary@kingham-hill.oxon.sch.uk)

[www.kingham-hill.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.kingham-hill.oxon.sch.uk)

Head Teacher Mr N. Seward

Sex of pupils Boys and Girls Age of pupils 11-18

Founded 1886

**Mission** Our Mission is to... Provide an excellent all-round education within a distinctively Christian context. We welcome talented pupils from a wide range of backgrounds and circumstances, and aim to produce young people of vision, faith, and character, who are well-qualified and equipped to flourish in their adult lives.

**Entrance Requirement** We accept pupils of average ability and better. Very able pupils benefit from the specialist input of Octagon, our academic society. All pupils receive just the right balance of challenge and encouragement to help them reach their full academic potential.

**Campus** Most first time visitors to the school experience the 'wow' factor as they turn into our grounds and make their way along the main drive. We are surrounded by our stunning 96 acre site and delightful rolling Cotswold countryside. We also lie just a short walk from Kingham, 'England's favourite village'.

**Extra-curricular** We recognise that there is more to life than academic study. Kingham Hill has open access to a whole range of activities both on campus and further afield, which enhances the all-round development of our pupils. These include a wide range of clubs and many other occasional recreational opportunities.

We also encourage our pupils to get involved in community service, charity work and charity fundraising.





# School life

Advertising promotion

## Picking the correct school is vital for the future of your offspring



### WALLINGFORD SCHOOL

Wallingford School, St George's Road, Wallingford, Oxfordshire, OX10 8HH

01491 837 115 head.4140@wallingfordschool.com

Head Teacher Mr N. J. Willis

Sex of pupils Boys and girls Age 11-18 years

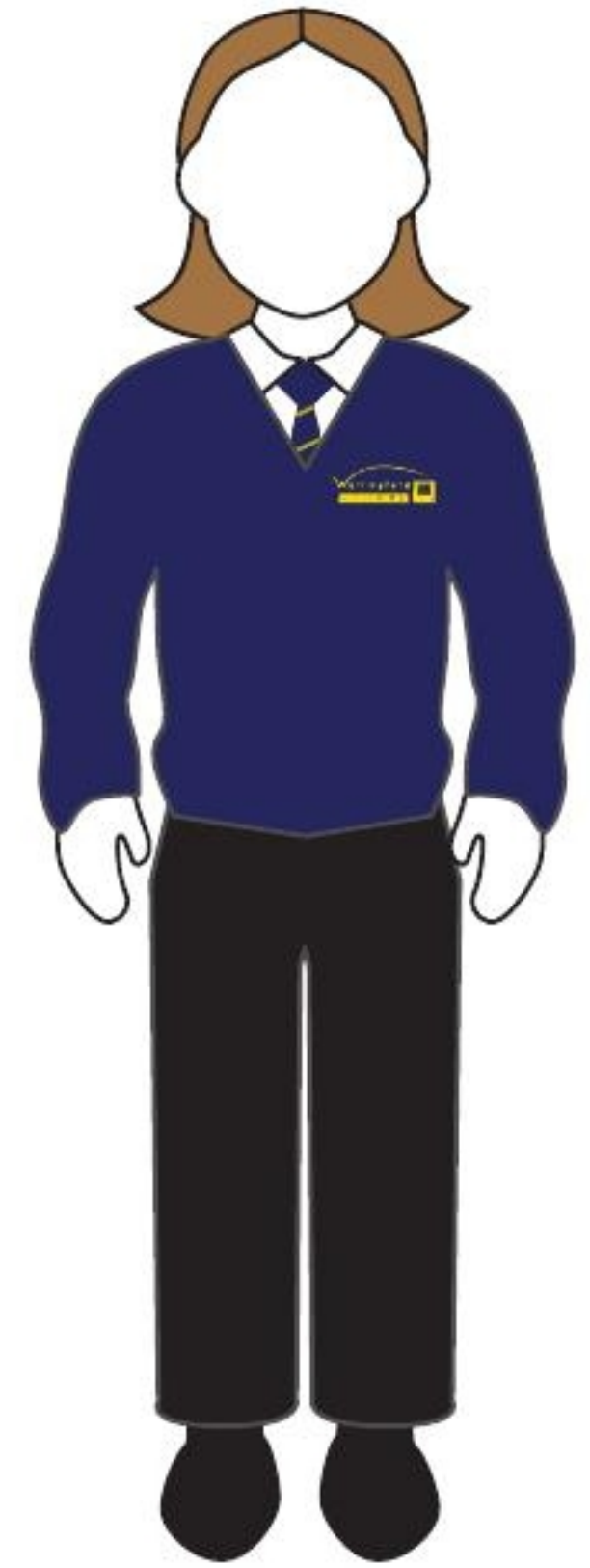
Wallingford was the highest attaining state school in Oxfordshire at GCSE in 2012 and 2013. Last year our students achieved 76% 5A\* - C with English (80%) and mathematics (81%). Our value added score puts us in the top 4% nationally. Our boys would finish third equal in the county on their own, while the girls secured a tremendous 83% 5A\*-C with English and maths. Most impressive is the outstanding progress of our students, from the lower ability to the very high achieving. This is remarkable for a school that accepts all students regardless of academic profile, income, gender or faith.

Year on year our Sixth Form value added results place us in the top 25% of the country for students studying pure A Levels and for those combining them with vocational courses. Our results are particularly strong in the more rigorous 'facilitating' subjects and every student applying to university on results day is successful.

Our curriculum has always been centred upon a traditional academic offer, supplemented with vocational courses where appropriate. There is very strong support for our gifted students, running from induction to university entry, detailed in a bespoke prospectus. There is also a separate publication for those who experience difficulty learning.

**Extra-curricular** The extra-curricular offer is extensive. It ranges from clubs and teams in the school week, through day trips to longer residential visits to places in the UK and Europe, with the expeditions to places like Borneo and Nicaragua at the more adventurous end. We also offer the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

**Mission** Our aim is to send everyone into the world able and qualified to play their full part. We do not employ any eye-catching strategies or unique structures. We do the simple things well, through very hard work indeed. The real achievement of the staff is that they have created a high-performing school while keeping a happy, warm atmosphere. We think this is because of a real love of teaching and learning, allied to clear boundaries for behaviour. Working and studying at Wallingford is a real privilege; one we earn through hard work and respect for each other. Young people thrive here.



## Prep list: Do's and don'ts for parents

### • Start planning early

Choose the secondary school or schools you would like your child to attend and work backwards: which is the best pre-prep or nursery, prep or primary school to get there? Choose a school that suits your child, not your ambitions.

### • Do your homework

Learn about prospective schools for your child and visit, visit, visit. You should be looking seriously by the time your child is eight or nine years old.

### • Get involved

Take an interest in what your child is learning and make yourself familiar with the types of tests set by schools. But don't bore your child to death – they can't spend all evening doing practice papers.

### • Prepare your child

Prepare your child for interview but beware of coaching. If you do, your child may come out with something painful, like: "Mummy and Daddy told me to say I was a perfectionist."

### • Consider tutoring

Think about hiring a private tutor if, say, your child is going for entrance to an independent day school or grammar school. But don't turn your child's life into a miserable round of nonstop coaching.

### • Stay calm

Do not convey the stress you feel to your child, particularly at exam time. Your attitude should be that your child is applying to three or four wonderful schools and you would be happy with any of them.

### What schools must publish on their website

Schools must put on their website: how much money they get from taking underprivileged children (the 'pupil premium'), what they do with it and the effect it's had

- details of the curriculum
- admission criteria
- behaviour policy
- special educational needs policy
- policy on disability
- links to Ofsted reports
- links to performance data
- the school's latest Key Stage 2 and 4 attainment and progress measures



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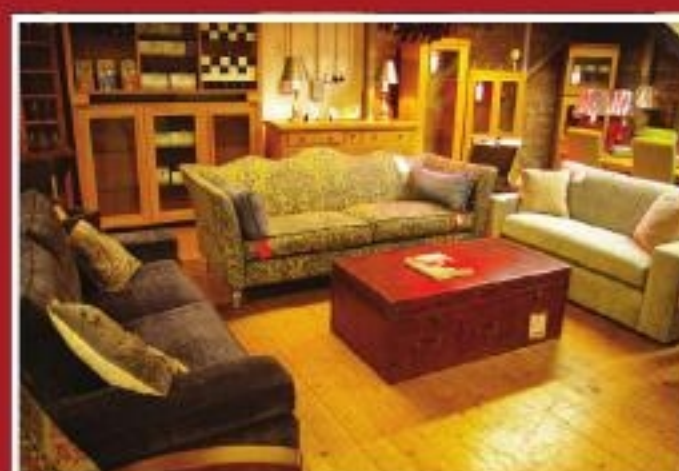
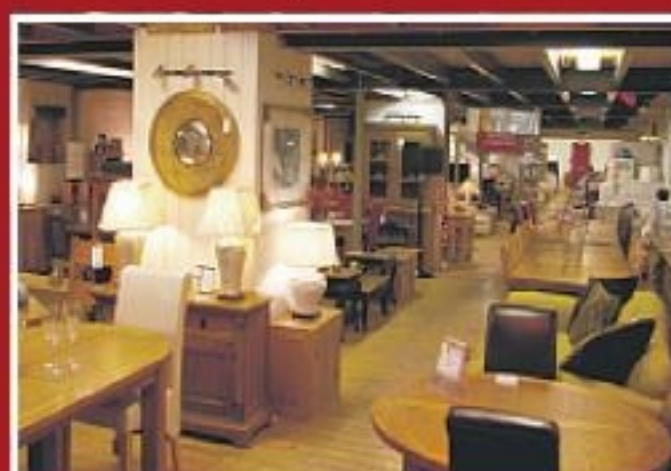
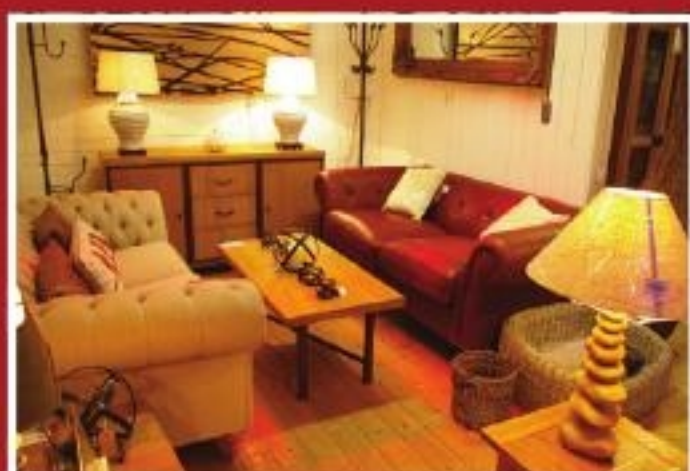
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# Auto Weekly

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motoring newspaper

## The country's number one car for the second year running **The nation's favourite**

**THE Ford Fiesta begins 2014 not only as the nation's favourite car, but also a double What Car? Awards winner.**

Britain's 2014 Best Small Car and Best Hot Hatch according to What Car? is number one small car for the second year running – reflecting consumer sales in the UK, where it also retained its number one position.

Chas Hallett, What Car? editor-in-chief, said: "No other car in this class can beat the Fiesta's excellent ride and handling."

"The Fiesta ST is a total and utter triumph."

"It is too soon to tell whether it will join the ranks of the hot hatch legends but we certainly wouldn't bet against it."

It is also second year in a row that

REVIEW: FORD FIESTA

By **Andy Allens**

Ford has triumphed in the Hot Hatch category – 2013's winner was the 250PS Focus ST.

Sales in Britain during 2013 saw the Ford Fiesta top the UK car charts every month of the year, with total sales at almost 122,000 – the best year for Fiesta since 1996.

The Fiesta, which was awarded the maximum five-star safety rating by the independent vehicle safety organisation Euro NCAP, is also among the most keenly priced small cars in Britain. The range starts at £9,995 for the 3-door, 1.25-litre Studio model.



• The Ford Fiesta

### Facts at a glance

- 121,929 UK Fiesta sales in 2013, the most in a single year since 1996 (139,552)
- Fiesta was the top-selling UK car every month of 2013
- 2013 was the fifth successive year that Fiesta has been the UK best seller
- 67% of Fiesta sales are of five-

door models

- 65% are Zetec models, 22% Titanium, 10% Style and 3% ST
- 41% of buyers opt for the 1.0 litre petrol engine, 36% for the 1.25 petrol and 9% for the 1.6 petrol; 14% choose the 1.5/1.6 diesel
- 6% of buyers choose automatic transmission

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\*Contact your Ford Dealer to test drive a new Fiesta, Fiesta ST, B-MAX, All-New Transit Connect, Transit Custom, Ranger, or any vehicle with a 1.0l EcoBoost engine between 7th February 2014 to 23rd February 2014. Purchased vehicles to be contracted and registered by 28th February 2014.

\*\*£500 saving cannot be used in conjunction with Ford Fleet terms or discounts. See [ford.co.uk](http://ford.co.uk)



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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the Mazda6 range: Urban 36.2 (7.8) - 60.1 (4.7), Extra Urban 57.6 (4.9) - 83.1 (3.4), Combined 47.9 (5.9) - 72.4 (3.9). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (g/km) 136 - 104.

The mpg figures quoted are sourced from official EU-regulated test results obtained through laboratory testing. These are provided for comparability purposes only and may not reflect your actual driving results.

Retail sales only, subject to vehicle availability for vehicles registered between 01.01.14 and 31.03.14 at participating dealers. T&C apply. \*0% finance available on all Mazda6 models with no minimum deposit on Mazda Personal Contract Purchase. At the end of the agreement there are 3 options: (i) Renew: Part exchange the vehicle, where equity is available, (ii) Retain: Pay the Optional Final Payment to own the vehicle or (iii) Return the vehicle. Further charges may be made subject to the condition of the vehicle. Finance subject to status, 18s or over. Guarantee/Indemnity may be required. Mazda Financial Services RH11SR. We can introduce you to a limited number of carefully selected finance providers. We may receive a commission from them for the introduction. Models shown: Mazda6 Saloon 150ps Sport Diesel, OTR £25,195. Mazda6 Tourer 150ps Sport Diesel, OTR £25,995. Models shown feature optional Soul Red Metallic paint (£660). OTR price includes VAT, number plates, delivery, 12 months' road fund licence, first registration fee, 3 year or 60,000 mile warranty and 3 years' European roadside assistance. Test drives subject to applicant status and availability. †On selected models only. Details correct at time of going to publication and may vary, e.g. if list price changes. Not available in conjunction with any other offer unless specified. Johnsons Cars Ltd is an Appointed Representative of ITC Compliance Limited which is Authorised and Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Registered Name: Johnsons Cars Ltd, Registered Office: Empire Court, Albert Street, Redditch B97 4DA, United Kingdom. Registration No. 3716766 VAT Registration No. GB927551606.





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**08 08 FOCUS STYLE 1.6 PETROL 100PS STYLE**, 5 dr, ocean blue me/grey, 5 spd, e/w&m, c/l, PAS, r/CD, a/c, HFS, front fogs, alloys, 6 airbags, ABS, ESP, low mileage, FSH, 35,959 miles.....**SOLD**

**09 09 FOCUS 1.6 PETROL TITANIUM AUTO**, 5dr, moon dust silver/grey, e/w&m, cruise control, auto lights & wipers., c/l, alloys, DAB radio/CD, climate, HFS, 6 airbags, ABS, ESP, 2 owners from new, very low mileage, FSH, 14,055 miles.....£7,595

**06 56 FOCUS 1.6 PETROL ZETEC CLIMATE**, 5 dr, tonic blue met/grey, 5 spd, e/w&m, c/l, r/CD, PAS, a/c, HFS, front fogs, 6 airbags, ABS, 2 owners from new, service history, 67,747 miles.....£4,795

**11 11 FOCUS 1.6 PETROL 115PS ZETEC**, 3dr, colorado red/grey, e/w&m, c/l, Blue tooth USB, air con, 5 spd, ABS, ESP, front fogs, HFS, DAD radio/CD, alloys, PAS, 6 airbags, a/c, FSH, one owner from new, very low mileage 27,638 miles.....£8,995

**11 61 FOCUS 1.6 PETROL 125PS ZETEC**, 5dr, midnight sky met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, DAB radio & CD, PAS, Blue tooth, alloys, front fogs, heated windscreen, ABS, ESP, 29,000 miles.....£10,395

**08 08 FOCUS 1.8 PETROL 125PS STYLE**, 5dr, panther black/grey, c/l, r/CD, e/w&m, PAS, a/c, front fogs, 6 airbags, ESP, 2 owners from new, service history, 53,446 miles.....£5,595

**12 61 FOCUS 1.6 PETROL 125PS ZETEC ESTATE**, colorado red/grey, e/w&m, c/l, DAB r/CD, alloys, a/c, ABS, ESP, HFS, front fogs, 6 airbags, Blue tooth USB, rear park sensors, 12 months manufacturers warranty, one owner from new, FSH, 17,900 miles.....£11,995

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**13 63 FOCUS 1.0 100PS PETROL ZETEC NAVIGATOR NEW MODEL**, 5dr, deep impact blue met/grey, sat nav, B'tooth & USB, e/w & m, 17" alloys, privacy glass, ABS, EP, reverse park sensors, 6 airbags, 2 years old and 9 months manufacturer's warranty, only £20 RFL per year, 3,413 miles.....£13,995

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**11 60 FIESTA 1.25 PETROL ZETEC 82PS**, 5dr, ink blue met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, r/CD, front fogs, 5 airbags, aircon, HFS, alloys, ABS, ESP, one owner from new, FSH, 35,948 miles.....£8,595

**10 60 FIESTA TITANIUM 1.4 PETROL 96PS**, 5dr, ink blue met/grey, 5 spd, e/w&m, c/l, front fogs, cruise control, 5 airbags, alloys, radio/CD, ABS, ESP, PAS, climate, one owner from new, low mileage 15,000 miles, FSH.....£8,995

## FUSION

**10 60 FUSION 1.4 PETROL ZETEC**, 5dr, moon dust silver met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, front fogs, r/CD, 2 airbags, PAS, HFS, alloys, ABS, air con, one owner from new, low mileage 19,300 miles.....£7,795

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**12 12 GRAND C MAX 1.6 TDCI 115PS DIESEL ZETEC 7 SEATER MPV**, midnight sky met/grey, e/w&m, heated windscreen, 6 spd, DAB radio & CD, PAS, c/l, ABS, ESP, Blue tooth, rear park sensors, 6 airbags, alloys, very low mileage 4,228 miles, one owner from new, FSH.....£13,995

**12 12 S MAX 1.6T ECOBOOST 160PS TITANIUM**, panther black met/grey, 6spd, e/w&m, r/CD, c/l, Blue tooth connectivity, HFS, climate, auto lights & wipers, front fogs, cruise, PAS, one owner, full service history, very low mileage 6,200 miles.....£16,595

**11 11 C MAX 1.6 PETROL 125PS TITANIUM**, micastone met/grey, 5 spd, e/w&m, c/l, r/CD, heated windscreen, PAS, auto lights & wipers, ABS, ESP, convenience pack inc. park assist & fold mirrors, global closing, alloys, very low mileage 5,500 miles, one owner, FSH.....£11,995

**13 13 B MAX ZETEC 1.0 ECOBOOST 125PS**, 5 dr, midnight sky/grey, 5 spd, City pack, e/w&m, Ford Sync, power folding mirrors, rear park sensors, HFS, ABS, multiple airbags, alloys, ex-demonstrator, low mileage 8,800 miles, RFL £30 per year.....£12,995

## KA

**10 60 KA TITANIUM 1.2**, petrol, 3dr, moonlight silver met/grey, 5 spd, PAS, r/CD, climate control, e/w&m, c/l, HFS, front fogs, alloys, 2 airbags, ABS, 2 owners from new, only £30 RFL per year, 34,827 miles.....£6,995

**09 09 KA STUDIO 1.2 PETROL**, 3dr, strobe met/grey, 5 spd, PAS, r/CD 2 a/b, ABS, 2 local owners, FSH, only £30 12 months RFL, 53,400 miles.....£4,795

**13 63 KA STUDIO 1.2 PETROL**, 3dr, flame red/grey, 5 spd, PAS, r/CD, 2 airbags, ABS, delivery mileage only 6 miles, RFL only £30 for 12 months, 3 years manufacturers warranty.....£7,995

**13 63 KA STUDIO 1.2 PETROL**, 3dr, crystal white/grey, 5 spd, PAS, r/CD, 2 airbags, ABS, delivery mileage only 6 miles, RFL only £30 for 12 months, 3 years manufacturers warranty.....£8,195

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**03 53 FOCUS GHIA 2.0 PETROL AUTO ESTATE**, deep rosso red met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, r & 6 CD player, PAS, climate, HFS, front fogs, alloys, 4 airbags, ABS, traction control, 3 owners from new, service history, low mileage for age 73,281 miles.....£3,495



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<b>BMW 3 SERIES</b> 320i SE 5DR <b>59 REG</b>  • 29,667 MILES • PARKING SENSORS • AIR CONDITIONING <b>£12,163</b>	<b>RENAULT SCENIC</b> 1.5 DCI 106 DYNAMIQUE <b>60 REG</b>  • 22,288 MILES • SAT NAV • BLUETOOTH <b>£7,409</b>	<b>FORD GRAND</b> C-MAX 2.0 TDCI TITANIUM 5DR <b>61 REG</b>  • 55,881 MILES • PARKING SENSORS • BLUETOOTH <b>£11,680</b>	<b>SMART FORTWO</b> CABRIO PASSION MHD 2DR <b>10 REG</b>  • 22,590 MILES • SAT NAV • AIR CONDITIONING <b>£5,959</b>	<b>FIAT 500</b> 1.3 MULTIJET 95 LOUNGE 2DR <b>60 REG</b>  • 62,173 MILES • PARKING SENSORS • BLUETOOTH <b>£8,838</b>

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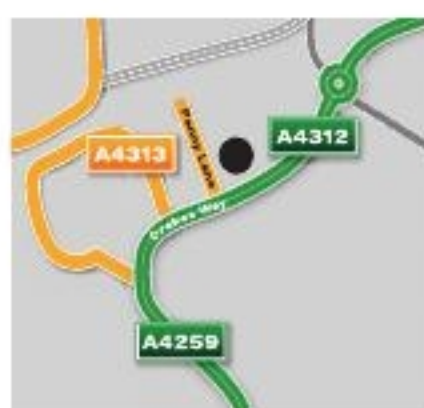
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<sup>A</sup>Maximum annual mileage: 10,000 miles for each period of 12 months commencing from the start of the agreement. Maximum total mileage for period of hire: 48,475 miles (which shall be pro-rated for earlier termination). If the annual mileage or total annual mileage figures shown above are exceeded, an excess mileage charge of 6.3 pence per mile (exc. VAT) will be incurred. Terms and conditions apply. Finance is subject to status, written quotations available on request from CarShop, Ravens Way, Crow Lane Industrial Estate, Northampton, NN3 9UD. Over 18s only. A guarantee may be required. Offers, prices and specification correct at time of going to print. Please ask for details. Subject to stock availability. †Calls may be recorded and monitored for training purposes. Images are for illustration purposes only. \*Vehicles subject to a £99.00 administration fee. \*Terms and conditions apply.



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## ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

# Honda Civic Tourer Launch

The Honda Civic Tourer debuted as a stunning concept early last year. After an official unveiling at the Frankfurt Motor Show in September, we had a look at the final production version, which matched the concept's exciting lines and futuristic details.

Now the Civic Tourer is on sale. The order books opened in December, and deliveries start this month.

Orders are already piling up, and it isn't difficult to see why - the Civic Tourer is a remarkable sight. The handsome rising beltline, swirling wheelarch treatments and adventurous swage lines immediately set the Tourer apart from more ordinary contenders in the segment. The long glasshouse is both attractive and practical, increasing visibility for the driver on the road. The rear end is particularly striking, with sweeping full-length tail lights and a centrally mounted exhaust.

It's not all style above substance. The rear door cuts low into the bumper for convenient load access and it has the largest boot in its class. Ahead of the sculpted rear end, the Tourer is a normal Civic, offering the same comfort and technology. Fuel consumption is similar too: equipped



with the new 1.6-litre Earth Dreams diesel engine, the Civic Tourer achieves 74.3 mpg and slips under the magic 99g/km CO<sub>2</sub> emissions figure that means owners will pay no road tax.

All that adds up to a car worth experiencing. The Honda Civic Tourer has already arrived at **Johnsons Honda** should you want to take a closer look. Contact us today to arrange a test drive.

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Fuel consumption figures for Civic Tourer 1.6 i-DTEC SE Plus in mpg (l/100km): Urban 67.3 (4.2), Extra Urban 78.5 (3.6), Combined 74.3 (3.8). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions: 99g/km. Fuel consumption figures sourced from official EU-regulated laboratory test results, are provided for comparison purposes and may not reflect real-life driving experience.

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Fiat, the car brand with the lowest average CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Europe†. Fuel consumption figures for the Fiat 500L range in mpg (l/100km): Urban 33.6 (8.4) – 62.8 (4.5); Extra Urban 53.3 (5.3) – 76.3 (3.7); Combined 44.1 (6.4) – 70.6 (4.0). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions 149 – 105 g/km. Fuel consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> figures based on standard EU tests for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results. \*The Fiat 500L and Fiat 500L MPW boot space is based on 5 seat version with rear seats pulled forward. †Based on 5+2 seat version. 5 standard seats and two extra seats for persons up to 1.65m. \*The 0% APR HP offer is based on 36% customer deposit and 3 Year Term. Fiat Deposit Contribution of £500 is payable in addition to the 36% customer deposit. Deposit Contribution available across the Fiat 500L range and is only available in conjunction with Fiat Hire Purchase Low Cost and Fiat i-Deal Low Cost. Offer subject to status. A guarantee or indemnity may be required. January to March 2014 offer, valid from the 3rd January 2014. Fiat Financial Services, PO Box 4465, Slough SL1 0RW. We work with a number of creditors to provide finance to our customers, including Fiat Financial Services. Prices correct at time of printing. Offer may be varied and withdrawn at any time. Subject to availability. †Source: JATO Dynamics. Based on volume weighted average CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (g/km) of the best selling brands in Europe, full year 2012.



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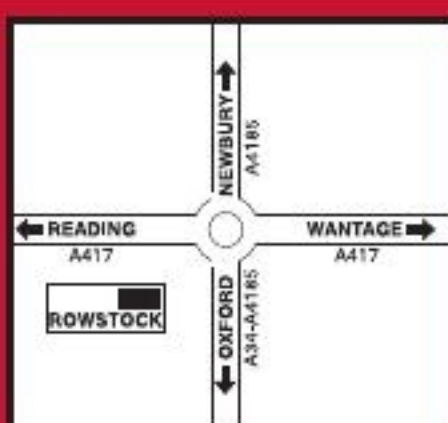
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# United 'devastated' after Pirates' late equaliser

## Smith 'pleased' with first test

BRADLEY Smith insists he is looking at the bigger picture after completing last week's three day test in Sepang.

The 23-year-old was eighth in the combined standings with a best time of 2:00.603, just over a second behind Marc Marquez, who was quickest across the three days.

Smith was only 11th quickest on the third day and insists the test was more about learning about the new Bridgestone tyres.

The Tech3 rider, who did over 180 laps across three days, said: "I tried to gain as much information and data, also doing a half race simulation at the end of the day with this new tyre, just to compare it with the one from last year."

"All in all I am pleased, even if the position on the time sheet does not seem to be ideal, it was never my main aim to set fast lap times."

"We are looking at the big picture, and preparing for the championship and we will try to be ready for Qatar."

Smith will have another chance to experiment when MotoGP heads back to Sepang for testing on February 26.

The 2014 season begins on March 23 at the Losail Circuit in Qatar.

## Two wins for dominant Stars

OXFORD City Stars managed two wins from two at the weekend, as they first beat local rivals Swindon Wildcats and then Lee Valley Lions in the National Ice Hockey League Division Two.

Saturday's 6-2 win away to Swindon saw goals from six different players, courtesy of Josh Oliver, Darren Elliott, Alan Green, Josh Florey, Zach Dolphin and Jacob Smith.

Five of the goals came in the first period, and while Swindon were able to get on the scoresheet it was a comfortable win for the visitors.

If anything, Sunday's match at home to Lee Valley Lions was even more one-sided, as Stars crushed their opponents 10-1.

Scoring was again spread between the players, with Elliott and James Pentacost scoring twice, and goals also coming for Green, Smith, Joe Oliver, Sam Broughton, Nick Oliver and Josh Oliver.

The Lions had gone 1-0 ahead within the opening 17 seconds, but the rest of the game was all about the Stars as they avenged an earlier defeat to the visitors back in November.

Stars remain top of the league standings with 25 points from their 17 games, three ahead of nearest rivals Slough Jets.



• James Constable scored for Oxford United during last Saturday's draw at Bristol Rovers (Picture by Steve Daniels)

JOHN-JOE O'Toole's late header denied Oxford United the chance to move up to second in Sky Bet League Two as the U's were held to a 1-1 draw at struggling Bristol Rovers.

James Constable's thunderous half-volley put United ahead on 10 minutes, but O'Toole nodded home Lee Brown's free kick with six minutes to go.

The draw maintained Oxford's impressive unbeaten away record, which now stands at 14 league games, while the U's have now not lost in seven games.

However, Saturday's stalemate at the Memorial Stadium saw Oxford miss out on the chance to capitalise on league leaders

By Jack Johnson

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Chesterfield and second-placed Scunthorpe sharing the spoils.

Caretaker manager Mickey Lewis said: "We had a little spell in the second half where we were quite dominant, but Bristol Rovers were always going to come at us at 1-0," he said.

"With 10 minutes to go we were always going to be under pressure, but if we had made it 2-0 that would have perhaps killed the game off."

"We would have liked to have been higher up the pitch, but it's easier said than done."

"We don't want to be sitting

back, but until they scored they had some possession and a few balls into the box and we still felt quite comfortable."

"We gave away two or three free-kicks in and around the box and they scored from one of them and then in the last five minutes you are always going to be under pressure."

United survived a few late scares to remain third in the league table but the players were still disappointed not to clinch victory on a very heavy pitch.

Lewis added: "The lads are devastated that they have drawn the game."

"It's totally different to the Bury atmosphere because we

were a goal down there and it just changes our perspective, but it's another point."

"We desperately wanted to win the game, but it's another point against a team who are fighting for their lives."

Oxford welcome Mansfield Town to the Kassam Stadium this Saturday and will be looking for a third home win in succession.

Winger Alfie Potter was on the bench at Bristol Rovers and will hope to play some part this weekend, while Lewis will hope to recall Michael Raynes and Ryan Williams from injury.

Captain Jake Wright, Andy Whing and Jon Meades still remain a few weeks away.

## Another loss for Hawks, while Witney win derby

HENLEY Hawks' miserable run in the RFU National League 1 continued on Saturday, as they were beaten 36-10 away at Doncaster.

The result means that the Hawks have won just once in their last nine matches, and have slipped down to 13th in

the league table.

They will be back in action on Saturday, as they host fifth-placed Blaydon as they try and get their season back on track.

In one of the other games to survive the weather at the weekend, Witney comfortably beat Grove 17-0 in their Oxfordshire

derby.

Witney are now up to fourth in the South West 1 East, while Grove have dropped to ninth.

Grove are scheduled to travel to Maidenhead on Saturday, while Witney make the journey to Swindon.

Elsewhere, Oxford Harlequins

trip to Windsor and Chinnor's visit to Bishops Cleeve were both called off because of the bad weather.

They will hope to return to action at the weekend, with Harlequins hosting Buckingham and Chinnor playing Clifton at home.

## Williams announce new sponsor deal

WILLIAMS F1 has announced a new partnership with insurance company Genworth, who will appear as a sponsor on the car for this season onwards.

The news comes as the Grove-based team prepare for the final two pre-season tests in Bahrain, taking place from February 19 to 23 and February 27 to March 2.

Williams have yet to reveal the livery they will be using for the season, and are not expected to unveil their chosen colour scheme and sponsor decals until the first race of the season on March 16 in Australia.

Speaking about the new

partnership, team founder Sir Frank Williams said: "I'm delighted to welcome a brand of Genworth's pedigree to the team for the 2014 season and beyond."

"We're looking forward to working in close collaboration to help them maximise the benefits that come from a close association with Williams and Formula One."

Peter Barrett, global managing director at Genworth, said: "We are excited to become a partner to Williams."

"The Williams business, and the strong ideals and foundations that it is built on, are very closely aligned to Genworth's core values."

• Valtteri Bottas (pictured) driving at this month's test in Jerez, Spain (Picture courtesy of Williams F1)



## Sport Bites

### City called off

OXFORD City's match against AFC Telford in the Conference North fell foul of the weather on Saturday, as did their game against Banbury United in the Oxfordshire Senior Cup on Tuesday night.

City have only played three times in 2014, comprised of two losses and a draw, and are currently 20th in the league standings with 23 points.

They will hope to return to action on Saturday, as they make the trip to league leaders North Ferriby United.

### Win for OU

OXFORD University's hockey team came out on top in their derby match with Oxford Hawks, as they won 4-2 on Saturday.

The scores had been level at half-time, before OU were able to pull ahead and take the victory, as they had done when the two teams last played each other in October.

OU are now fourth in the South League Premier 1 with 28 points, while Hawks have fallen to eighth with 18 points.

### Deta loses

OXFORD county darts player Deta Hedman went out in the quarter final stages of the BDO World Trophy, held in Blackpool last week.

This was the first major tournament since Hedman lost in the BDO World Championship final in January, and she made a good start by whitewashing Casey Gallagher 4-0 in the first round.

However her average of 72 was not enough to overcome German player Irina Armstrong, and she lost 5-3.

The tournament was won by former champion Anastasia Dobromyslova of Russia.

## Do you have an Oxford story?

Contact James

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or on 01235 516931



**More Sport inside:** Football: United 'devastated' after Pirates' late equaliser | Motorsport: Williams announce new sponsor deal

# BROWNE - BIG WIN WAS DUE

## Second row says Exiles were ready to unleash dominant display

LONDON Welsh's seven-try victory over Rotherham Titans is a performance that had been coming, according to second row Peter Browne.

The Exiles stormed back to top spot in the Greene King IPA Championship with an emphatic 47-16 victory over the Titans to go two points clear of Leeds Carnegie, Rotherham and Bristol.

Having conceded three tries in the opening 13 minutes at Plymouth Albion the previous weekend, eventually losing 36-15, Welsh turned the tables at the Kassam on Sunday, with Nathan Trevett and Richard Thorpe crossing inside the opening seven minutes.

Although Juan Pablo Socino kicked three penalties for the visitors, tries from James Tideswell and Seb Stegmann saw Welsh wrap up the bonus point before half-time.

Stegmann added his second try within two minutes of the restart, with Browne and Alan Awcock also crossing, before Marshall Gadd went over for a late Rotherham consolation.

"It had been coming for a while, we've been at boiling point and we bubbled over today. Everything just worked," said Browne. "We got our phase play together, the skills were good, we were offloading and we took it to them."

"Rotherham are a team who

**By James Booker**

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take teams on and we just didn't let them play for the first 65 minutes - we shut them out of the game.

"It was fantastic to play in; we played with real ambition but we played tactically as well. We kicked for the corner and played from the right spots.

"We should have done better against Plymouth. We put our hands up and we looked at ourselves, but we stayed positive," added Browne.

For Browne, the key to Welsh's win was finally being able to transfer the hard work done on the training ground at Old Deer Park, to the pitch on match day.

"We train so well in the week; we put the hours in and we train with ambition and tempo, but we haven't been bringing that out on the weekend," he said.

"We've been scrapping through games we should have been winning easily and now we finally just clicked."

Having beaten Leeds two weeks ago only to then lose at Plymouth so comprehensively at Brickfields, Welsh face a trip next Sunday to the Cornish Pirates.

"It's on the road that we've got to be ruthless," added Browne.



• Second row Peter Browne believes the comprehensive display of Welsh's win over Rotherham was long overdue (Picture courtesy of London Welsh)

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Printed by Iliffe Print Cambridge, Milton, Cambridge CB24 6PP